

# **Utmost Life and Pensions Limited**

# SOLVENCY AND FINANCIAL CONDITION REPORT 2021



Registered in England No: 10559664

Walton Street, Aylesbury,

Buckinghamshire, HP21 7QW

www.utmost.co.uk



# **SOLVENCY AND FINANCIAL CONDITION REPORT 2021**

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#### **SOLVENCY AND FINANCIAL CONDITION REPORT 2021**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

This report is the Solvency and Financial Condition Report ("SFCR") of Utmost Life and Pensions ("ULP", "the Company") for the reporting period ended 31 December 2021 ("the Report"). The Report has been prepared in accordance with the Solvency II Regulations governing insurance group reporting and guidance from the European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority ("EIOPA") and the Prudential Regulatory Authority ("PRA").

The SFCR provides details of the Company business and its performance, systems of governance, risk profile, and valuation for solvency purposes and capital management for the financial year ended 31 December 2021.

The principal activity of the Company is the provision of life and pensions policies by pursuing its strategy of acquiring and consolidating businesses in the UK.

The Company has no external new business, and the only new business written in 2021 were annuities, sold to existing customers on the vesting of their pension savings contracts (including contracts with Guaranteed Annuity Options ("GAOs") and the new Flexible Drawdown product. The vast majority of business has been written in the UK.

The Company is part of the Utmost Group Plc ("UGP"), whose aim is to secure our clients' financial futures through the delivery of insurance and savings solutions, which result in greater prosperity for current and future generations.

#### **BUSINESS AND PERFORMANCE**

# Key highlights

Key highlights for 2021 include the following:

- Completing the final stages of the integration, delivering a much more efficient operating model, and preparing the business for future growth.
- Substantial changes to systems in 2021, including a move away from an expensive legacy mainframe system and the introduction of a new image and workflow system.
- Developing MyUtmost, initially for ULP's former individual Equitable customers with UK policies, which is due to be launched in the summer of 2022. More details of MyUtmost are included below.
- Widening the availability of Utmost Drawdown, launched in 2020, to former Reliance customers.
- Launching our Sustainability Strategy in March 2021 and further details are below. As part of this, we have committed to halving the carbon emissions across our shareholder investments by 2030 and to be net zero across our shareholder investments by 2050.
- Successfully retaining both former Equitable and former Reliance individual customers.
- Maintaining a strong solvency position throughout 2021, beginning the year with a solvency coverage ratio of 176%, and ending it with a solvency coverage ratio of 184%, having also paid dividends of £55m to Utmost Group in the year.



### **Business performance**

Throughout 2021, we have actively executed our strategy, primarily through a combination of continuing to develop our customer proposition and experience, finalising the integration activities following the acquisition of Equitable Life in 2020, as well as delivering a more efficient operational model.

We maintained a strong solvency position. We began the year with a solvency coverage ratio of 176%, and ended it with a solvency coverage ratio of 184%, having also paid dividends of £55m to Utmost Group. Overall, we have continued to operate with a strong Balance Sheet and with a Solvency Ratio well above required capital levels. We remain in a strong and resilient position, able to meet our capital requirements and ready for the next acquisition.

During 2021, the Covid-19 pandemic continued to impact our lives, including our ability to work together in our offices. We have continued to operate throughout in line with Government guidance and our people have proved resilient in our ability to adapt to working at home or working in the office during 2021 and into 2022, maintaining our customer service delivery levels throughout this time.

Through the integration work over 2020 and 2021, we have also significantly reduced our cost base and have delivered a much more efficient operating model.

Throughout 2021, we have actively executed our strategy, primarily through a combination of continuing to develop our customer proposition and experience, finalising the integration activities following the acquisition of Equitable Life in 2020, as well as delivering a more efficient operating model.

#### **Developing MyUtmost**

We are developing a new online service for our customers called "MyUtmost" which we are aiming to launch to our former Equitable Life customers in mid-2022. It will provide customers with an additional channel of communication with the opportunity of being able to perform a variety of tasks including;

- viewing policy values and policy details;
- sending and receiving secure messages;
- viewing annual statements;
- updating policy details.

We are also working to widen availability of this service to former Reliance customers.

The successful rollout of MyUtmost is also consistent with our Sustainability Strategy, helping to reduce the usage of paper and the carbon footprint of sending out customer information by post.

# **Systems Development**

We also completed a number of substantial changes to our systems in 2021, including the roll-out of a new Image and Workflow system to be used by our Customer Services department. The successful conclusion of this system roll out allowed us to move away from our reliance on an expensive legacy mainframe system and to utilise servers going forward. These two initiatives were completed in conjunction with our strategic IT partner, Atos.

# **Investment Performance**

The majority of former Equitable Life customers continue to be invested in our Age Related Strategy. For customers in the Age-Related Strategy, their monies were initially invested in a Secure Cash Fund for the first six months of 2020 and then transferred into Unit-Linked Managed Funds managed by JP Morgan Asset Management ("JPMAM") through the second half of 2020 in weekly tranches with the choice of which Managed Fund determined by their age.



These funds have continued to perform well through the second half of 2020 and through 2021. For example, customers invested in the Multi-Asset Moderate Fund (where the majority of our customers are invested) from July 2020 to December 2021 have seen growth in their funds in excess of 23%. The majority of former Reliance customers who have a unit-linked policy are also in the Multi-Asset Moderate Fund and so have also benefitted from good performance.

Former Equitable Life policyholders who already had an existing unit-linked policy at the time of the transfer to ULP were invested in a fund range provided by Abrdn (formerly known as Aberdeen Standard Investments). Following extensive discussions during 2021, we have decided to retain this business with Abrdn. Performance of the Abrdn funds have been above the benchmarks set for them in 2021.

The non-linked assets of ULP continue to be managed with our strategic partner, Goldman Sachs Asset Management ("GSAM"). GSAM have continued to perform effectively throughout 2021 in providing a suitable range of assets to match against our non-linked liabilities.

Utmost Portfolio Management Limited, a fellow subsidiary of Utmost Group Plc ("UGP"), was appointed as investment manager to manage the shareholder assets of the Company in 2020. This arrangement went live in January 2021 and has proved effective in providing performance above benchmark of 2021.

#### Product development and marketing

In March 2020, the Company launched a Flexible Drawdown proposition available to former Equitable Life customers. New business written in 2021 included the new Flexible Drawdown product and annuities sold to existing customers on the vesting of their pension savings contracts (including contracts with guaranteed annuity options). In 2021, we enhanced our proposition by also offering former Reliance customers access to our Flexible Drawdown proposition.

#### Retention

Although the underlying guarantees on Equitable Life policies were exchanged for uplifted fund values as a result of the Scheme of Arrangement in 2020, we are pleased to report that we have retained the vast majority of former Equitable Life individual customers, with the lapse rate in 2021 lower than our long term assumptions set in 2020, allowing us to revise this assumption in 2021. We have seen that trend continue into 2022. Overall, ULP continues to maintain a high customer retention rate, helped by the launch of Flexible Drawdown.

#### Sustainability Strategy

ULP is committed to making a positive difference. Our responsibility to our customers combines with a sense of responsibility in all our corporate actions to the environment, to our people and to the wider society in which we operate in order to maximise the positive impacts we can create. As well as being an overall positive for the society, this also makes business sense in keeping with our long-term vision.

Our Sustainability Strategy is defined along four pillars, which are underpinned by policies and targets, recognising that sustainable business encompasses a range of topics. These four pillars are:

Customer Outcomes Responsible Investments Environmental Impact Community Engagement

We seek to communicate transparently with our customers, providing good customer service and our proposition is continually assessed to ensure suitable outcomes.

Turning to the area of Responsible investments, we recognise the importance of our role as a long-term allocator of capital. Sustainable investing is a key issue facing our industry and wider society, and an



important factor to our customers when allocating funds. ULP takes its responsibility seriously and is committed to taking a pro-active approach to sustainable investing.

ULP has committed to reducing the carbon emissions in its shareholder investment portfolio. With UGP we have set a target to halve the carbon emissions in our shareholder investment portfolio by 2030, and to be carbon net zero in our shareholder investment portfolio by 2050, in line with the ABI Climate Change Roadmap.

UGP have also become a signatory to the UN's Principles of Responsible Investment initiative ("PRI"). The PRI is the world's leading proponent of responsible investment. It works to understand the investment implications of environmental, social and governance ("ESG") factors and to support its international network of investor signatories in incorporating these factors into their investment and ownership decisions.

We are committed to taking a proactive approach to sustainable investing and we will continue to embed it across our business – in our strategy, in our investments and in our ongoing stewardship. Becoming a signatory to the PRI demonstrates our commitment to this and encourages investments that contribute to prosperous and inclusive societies for current and future generations.

More information on this topic is provided within the ULP annual report.

#### **Statutory Profit and loss**

The Profit and Loss for the year reflects an improvement from a restated pre-tax profit of £50.0m in 2020 to £71.3m in 2021. The key drivers of this net change of £21.3m were as follows:

- Change in Expense Assumptions as a result of the successful integration;
- Change in Mortality/Longevity Assumptions;
- Change in Persistency Assumptions;
- Run off of the in-force book, releasing reserves; and
- Increase in Unit-linked book of business driving an overall increase in Annual Management Charges as a result of improved market conditions.

The directors paid two dividends, totalling £55m, during the financial year to UGP.

# **Capital position**

The Company maintained capital sufficient to meet its Solvency Capital Requirement ("SCR") throughout the period. The total available financial resources for the year end 31 December 2021 were £290.7m (2020: £306.3m). The Company had a SCR of £157.6m at year end 2021 (2020: £173.9m), with a Solvency Coverage Ratio of 184% (2020: 176%). (See section D and E).

# Matching Adjustment

The Company has two Matching Adjustment ("MA") portfolios that back some of the annuity business and Funeral Plan policies. The MA enables the Company to benefit from a higher discount rate that reduces the value of the liabilities. The Company Solvency Coverage Ratio is 184%, which includes the benefit of the MA. Without the MA, the Solvency Coverage Ratio would be 161%.

#### Transitional Measures

The Company does not apply the transitional risk-free interest rate term structure.

The following table sets out the capital requirements over the reporting period allowing for the eligibility restrictions.



SII Pillar 1 Solvency (£m)	31-Dec-21	31-Dec-20	Change
Own Funds (unrestricted)	302.9	306.3	(3.4)
Restriction on Own Funds	(12.2)	0.0	(12.2)
Own Funds	290.7	306.3	(15.6)
Solvency Capital Requirements	157.6	173.9	-16.3
Sub-fund capital support	0.0	0.0	(0.0)
Excess Available Capital (after capital support)	133.1	132.4	0.7
Solvency Capital Ratio	184%	176%	8%
Minimum Capital Requirement ("MCR")	51.5	53.9	(2.4)
Unused Future Discretionary Benefits ("FDBs")	49.1	49.9	(0.8)

# Strategic risk

Whilst the Company's strategy is to acquire businesses, the Company has also considered the implications of the strategy not succeeding. If this were the case, the Company would look at other ways of driving down unit costs. This would include outsourcing, transferring the business to other interested parties or looking for other expense reductions. The expense provision within the reserves has taken due regard to all of these other factors.

#### **Customers**

In line with our mission statement, customer interests, from both existing and acquired businesses, are at the forefront of our business model. Our strategy, to consolidate existing books of business, results in servicing long-standing customers. We do this by focusing on meeting their needs, delivering on the commitments made to them and enhancing, with sound financial management and capital security, benefits to them, where possible.

A key objective for us is to achieve good customer outcomes.

We consistently monitor asset performance, including that of the unit-linked funds, particularly in relation to the Multi-Asset funds operated by JPMAM, where the majority of the unit-linked business is invested.

Customer Service will also be enhanced through the launch of "MyUtmost" in 2022 as described above.

#### Risk and governance framework

The Company operates within a dynamic business environment, which is continually influenced by the external environment, including economic, political and industrial, competitive, demographic, health/lifestyle, legal and regulatory factors. By operating within this environment, the Company is exposed to risks. Part of the Company's success is dependent on managing these risks appropriately.

The Company's Enterprise Risk Management Framework ("ERM") provides the framework for the management of these risks, and supports attainment of the Company's strategic objectives. The ERM is designed to support the identification of all material risks, including medium- and long-term risks. The ERM Framework further sets out the Company's overall strategy towards and appetite for risk, the risk governance and management processes, and the Company's approach to risk classification, monitoring and analysis.

As part of ERM Framework mechanisms, risks are quantified and are subject to stress test and scenarios analysis. Non-quantifiable risks are fully covered within the framework and are monitored and managed through the Company's risk reporting and risk governance structures.

The four principal risks to the business are detailed in the table below.



Market risk	Primarily in the form of equity and currency risks.
Underwriting risk	Primarily in the form of expense, longevity, and persistency risks and the take- up of guaranteed options.
Credit risk	Primarily from spread risk on corporate bonds and counterparty default risk on risk mitigating contracts e.g. reinsurance
Operational risk	The Company has identified seven operational risk categories: :- Internal Fraud, External Fraud, Employment Practices, Damage to Physical Assets, Business disruption and system failures, Client/ Products/ Business practices and Execution/ Delivery/ Process management

The Company's Systems of Governance and risk profile are set out in sections B and C of this report.

#### COVID-19

2021 continued to be dominated by the COVID-19 pandemic and ensuring that the risks from financial market volatility and the operational impacts of serving our policyholders were managed appropriately. We have been able to provide all services to our customers and continued to work with our outsourcers to ensure continuity of service. We have followed all Public Health advice measures to ensure the health and well-being of staff.

#### Russia/Ukraine conflict

The Russia/Ukraine conflict, which has evolved over recent months, has added volatility to the global economy which is still recovering from the after effects of the COVID-19 outbreak. This conflict, and any other geopolitical risks which evolve over the coming months, could have significant impacts on the global economy. We will continue to monitor the impacts of the conflict and any other geopolitical risks, to ensure we remain resilient.



#### STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

#### **Directors' Statement**

Approval by the Board of Directors of the Solvency and Financial Condition Report for the period ending 31 December 2021

We certify that:

1. The Solvency and Financial Condition Report (SFCR) has been properly prepared in all material respects in accordance with the PRA rules and Solvency II Regulations; and

#### 2. We are satisfied that:

- a. Throughout the financial year in question, the Company has complied in all material respects with the requirements of the PRA rules and Solvency II Regulations as applicable; and
- b. It is reasonable to believe that, at the date of the publication of the SFCR, the Company has continued so to comply, and will continue so to comply in future.

On behalf of the Board of Utmost Life and Pensions Limited

By order of the Board

S. Shone

Stephen Shone Chief Executive Officer 7 April 2022



#### **SOLVENCY AND FINANCIAL CONDITION REPORT 2021**

#### A. BUSINESS AND PERFORMANCE

#### A.1 Business

The Company is part of the Utmost Group Plc, group of companies, a specialist life insurance group founded in 2013, with the aim of acquiring and managing life insurance business across the UK and Europe with c.£62bn in assets under administration and 570,000 customers.

The principal activity of the Company is the provision of life and pensions policies by pursuing its strategy of acquiring and consolidating businesses in the UK to deliver a safe home for its customers through our strong capital position and efficient operational management. The Company was formed on 12 January 2017 and acquired the business of Reliance Mutual Insurance Society on 1 April 2018, and the vast majority of the business of the Equitable Life Assurance Society in 1 January 2020. The ultimate parent company that is registered in the UK is Utmost Group Plc ("UGP"). The ultimate parent undertaking of the Company is OCM Utmost Holdings Limited, a company incorporated in the Cayman Islands.

# A.1.1 Legal form

The Company is a limited liability company incorporated in January 2017 and domiciled in England and Wales (Registration No.10559664), and its registered office address is Walton Street, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP21 7QW. The Company is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority ("PRA"), and regulated by both the Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA") and PRA.

# A.1.2 Supervisory authorities and external Auditors

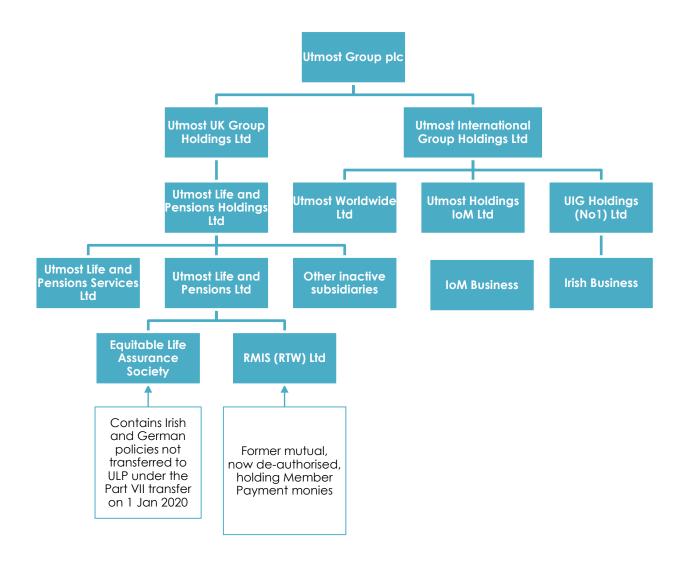
Supervisory Authority	External Auditors of the Annual Report and Accounts
Prudential Regulation Authority Bank of England 20 Moorgate London EC2R 8AH	PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP 7 More London Riverside London SE1 2RT
Financial Conduct Authority 12 Endeavour Square London E20 1JN	

# A.1.3 Group structure

The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Utmost Life and Pension Holdings Limited ("ULPH"), whose other subsidiaries include Utmost Life and Pensions Services Limited ("ULPS"). ULPS employs all staff for the ULPH group of companies. All our business and corporate teams operate from Aylesbury.

The structure sets out the principal companies with a material relationship with the Company. The Company is the parent of Equitable Life Assurance Society ("ELAS"), which retained residual Irish and German business following the transfer in January 2020, and remains an authorised insurer in its own right. The Company also wholly owns RMIS (RTW) Limited, formerly Reliance Mutual Insurance Society Limited, which, following the transfer of business to the Company on 1 April 2018, does not actively trade.





# A.1.4 Lines of business

The vast majority of the Company's in-force business has been written in the UK.

The Company is sub-divided into a number of distinct sub-funds, which are the Non-Profit Fund ("NPF"), which includes shareholder funds and the unit-linked business, and four separate With-Profits Sub-Funds ("the WPSFs") – WPSF1, 2, 4 and 6 – which are primarily with-profits business. The NPF contains two Matching Adjustment portfolios of assets used to back immediate annuities and funeral plans.

The Company has no external new business, and the only new business written is annuities sold to existing policyholders on the vesting of their pension savings contracts (including contracts with GAOs) or policyholders opting for the Company's new Flexible Drawdown Product.

The table overleaf summarises the Company's material lines of business as at 31 December 2021.



Line of Business	Contract Type	Product(s)	% of Technical Provisions
Unit-Linked and Index- Linked Insurance	Unit-Linked	Life and Pensions Savings	83%
Other Life Insurance Non-Linked		Annuities	10%
Other Life Insurance Non-Linked		Deferred Annuities	2%
Other Life Insurance Non-Linked		Funeral Plan	1%
Other Life Insurance Non-Linked		Term and Endowment Assurances	1%
Insurance with profit participation	Conventional With-Profits	Endowment Assurances, Annuities and other	3%

The Company also has small amounts of in-force unitised with-profits business, unit-linked annuities and health insurance business.

#### A.1.5 Significant Events

#### A.1.5.1 Company Strategy Update

The Company's vision is to become a successful medium-sized UK Life and Pensions consolidator, and its mission statement is: "we do our utmost to help our customers achieve future peace of mind through our trusted sector expertise, secure financial foundations and customer focus". The Company's strategy remains unchanged as we enter 2022.

In conjunction with the Utmost Group, the Company continues to seek out further acquisitions. The Company believes that there are opportunities as Life and Pensions companies in the UK consider their future operating models, and it has the ability to provide a variety of solutions to meet these needs. The Company continues to actively evaluate further acquisition opportunities.

### A.1.5.2 Target Operating Model delivery

In 2020, we successfully integrated the ELAS business and achieved our Target Operating Model and cost per policy. In 2021, this has been cemented by the delivery of two significant infrastructure projects: the Mainframe to Server migration project with Atos, our IT partner, and the Image and Workflow project.

At the conclusion of 2021 we are now also focused on delivering two further key projects – an online servicing capability for our customers and the regulatory accounting change, IFRS 17. We have also continued to deliver to our customers, despite the continued disruption of the Covid-19 pandemic.

#### A.1.5.3 Launch of Sustainability Strategy

Utmost Life and Pensions is committed to making a positive difference. Our responsibility to our customers combines with a sense of responsibility in all our corporate actions to the environment, to our employees and to the wider Society in which we operate, in order to maximise the positive impacts we can create. As well as being an overall positive for the Company, this also makes business sense in keeping with our long-term vision.

In 2021 the Company launched its Sustainability Strategy, which is defined along the four pillars of Customer Outcomes, Responsible investments, Environmental Impact and Community Engagement, which in turn are underpinned by policies and targets across the Utmost Group, recognising that sustainable business encompasses a range of topics.



An important aspect is in providing good customer outcomes. We seek to communicate transparently with our customers, provide good customer service and our proposition is continually assessed to ensure suitable outcomes.

Additionally, we recognise the importance of our role as a long-term allocator of capital. Sustainable investing is a key issue facing our industry and wider society, and an important factor to our customers when allocating funds. The Group takes its responsibility seriously and is committed to taking a pro-active approach to sustainable investing.

Further details on the strategy are published on our website at <a href="https://www.utmost.co.uk/about-us/sustainability">https://www.utmost.co.uk/about-us/sustainability</a>.

#### A.1.6 Business and Performance

The Company prepares its Annual Report and Financial Statements on a UK Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP") statutory basis in accordance with FRS 102 and FRS 103. These were approved by the Board on 31 March 2022 but, for the purposes of this document, financial performance is presented on a Solvency II basis; the changes for which are detailed and explained within this report.

The most significant differences between the Solvency II reporting and UK GAAP statutory basis are as follows:

- Actuarial liabilities are calculated on a best estimate basis for Solvency II and a prudent basis for UK GAAP;
- Intangible assets including goodwill and the present value of acquired in-force business have no value for Solvency II reporting.

The Company's Solvency Coverage Ratio at 31 December 2021 was 184% (2020: 176%), which was successfully above of the Board's stated risk appetite of at least 135% Solvency Ratio at all times and at least 150% Solvency Ratio immediately after the payment of a dividend or loan interest.

The table below analyses solvency coverage of the Company and the NPF.

CH Billion 1 Calvan are (Cura)	NPF	Company	
SII Pillar 1 Solvency (£m)	31-Dec-21	31-Dec-21	31-Dec-20
Own Funds (unrestricted)	302.9	302.9	306.3
Restriction on Own Funds	(12.2)	(12.2)	0.0
Own Funds	290.7	290.7	306.3
Solvency Capital Requirements	156.5	157.6	173.9
Sub-fund capital support	1.0	0.0	0.0
Excess Available Capital (after capital support)	133.1	133.1	132.4
Solvency Capital Ratio	185%	184%	176%
Minimum Capital Requirement ("MCR")	_	51.5	53.9
Unused Future Discretionary Benefits ("FDBs")		49.1	49.9



#### A.2 Underwriting Performance

Due to the nature of the Company's unit-linked, annuities and with-profits business, an analysis of underwriting performance does not provide meaningful information without netting off the investment performance and, for this reason, it is not the way in which the Company manages the business. Financial performance focuses on the movement in the Company's economic value and solvency ratio.

The Company wrote £39.0m (2020: £31.2m) of new business in respect of annuties sold to existing policyholders on the vesting of their pension savings contracts, including contracts with GAOs and the new Flexible Drawdown Product. The Company has no other new business.

#### A.3 Investment Performance

Investment return comprises investment income, including realised investment gains and losses and movements in unrealised gains and losses on investments designated as fair value through profit or loss, net of investment expenses and charges.

Interest income is recognised as it accrues, taking into account the effective yield on investments.

Dividends are included as investment income on the date when the right to receive has been established.

Unrealised gains and losses on investments represent the difference between the valuation at the date of the Statement of financial position and their purchase price or, if they have been previously valued, their valuation at the date of the last Statement of financial position. The movement in unrealised gains and losses recognised in the year also includes the reversal of unrealised gains and losses recognised in earlier accounting periods in respect of investment disposals in the current period. Upon disposal or impairment, accumulated unrealised gains and losses are transferred from other comprehensive income to the income statement as realised gains or losses.

The Company's asset portfolio is invested to generate competitive investment returns whilst remaining within the Company's appetite for market and credit risk.

An analysis of the net investment return by asset class is presented in the table below.

#### Year End 2021:

	Debt Securities	Equity securities	Other Financial Investments	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Dividends	-	0.6	57.3	57.9
Interest	29.8	-	-	29.8
Net realised (losses) / gains	(2.8)	-	71.1	68.3
Net unrealised (losses)/ gains	(55.4)	2.2	460.0	406.8
	(28.4)	2.8	588.4	562.8



Year End 2020:

	Debt Securities	Equity securities	Other Financial Investments	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Dividends	-	0.8	37.7	38.5
Interest	28.6	-	-	28.6
Net realised (losses) / gains	1.7	0.1	(120.0)	(118.2)
Net unrealised (losses)/ gains	48.2	0.6	277.1	325.4
	78.5	1.5	194.8	274.8

The realised gains and unrealised losses are in respect of the portfolio of corporate and government bonds and OEIC investments. At 31 December 2021, the Company had no material securitised investments.

#### A.4 Performance of Other Activities

There is no performance of other activities not already covered elsewhere in this report.

# A.5 Any Other Material Activities

There are external factors which impact the key risks of the Company.

# Climate Change and wider ESG Risks

Over the last year the expectations with regards to the management of climate change risk and wider ESG risks has continued to increase. We continue to develop our understanding of these risks by working with UGP to develop our risk management framework which includes work on scenario analysis.

The Company has been actively working to ensure that climate risk is integrated effectively within the Company's risk management. This includes:

- Effective management and oversight from the Board
- Development of a Climate Change Risk Management Roadmap framework to position the approach to considering climate-related risks, in the context of the RM framework
- Embedding controls into relevant processes covering risk identification, assessment, acceptance or approval, monitoring, and reporting through the Company's Risk Control Self-Assessment process.
- The existing set of Policies has been enhanced through the addition of an Investment ESG Policy which includes policy objectives for ESG scores.
- We have taken positive steps in assessing the sensitivity of the Company's financial positions to climate transition risk based on results from scenario analysis.

#### **Brexit**

The Company, together with its subsidiary Equitable Life, has dealt with the regulatory changes that were introduced following the end of the Brexit transition period. The changes have had little operational and policyholder impact. There remains uncertainty on the degree of continuing equivalence between UK and EU financial services regulation. A significant divergence could lead to greater market volatility and increase certain other risks. The impact of Brexit on Equitable Life will need consideration over the longer



term. The Company believes that it has adequate mitigating controls and procedures in place to address these risk areas.

#### **COVID-19 Pandemic**

2021 continued to be dominated by the COVID-19 pandemic and ensuring that the risks from financial market volatility and the operational impacts of serving our policyholders were managed appropriately. We have been able to provide essential services to our customers and continued to work with our outsourcers to ensure continuity of service. We have followed all Public Health advice measures to ensure the health and well-being of staff.

A key factor that will affect future equity performance will be the path of the global recovery to the COVID-19 pandemic, which will be dependent on any new variants and the subsequent response to these. We will continue to monitor the impacts of the pandemic and manage the risk appropriately.



#### B. SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

#### **B.1** General Information

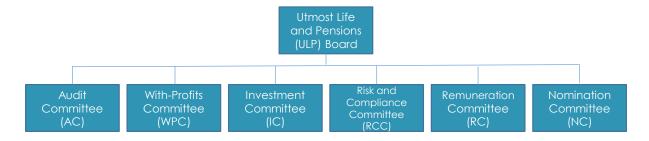
The Boards meet a minimum of four times a year. Other meetings are convened as required. The minimum quorum necessary for meetings is two members for the ULP Board. The Board comprises the Chair (an Independent Non-Executive member), four other Independent Non-Executive members, two Group Non-Executive Directors and two Executive Directors.

The Board's role is to:

- Have collective responsibility for the long-term sustainable success of the business;
- Provide entrepreneurial leadership for the overall running of the business;
- Ensure that the Company complies with all rules, regulations, laws, codes of practice, guidelines, principles and generally accepted standards of performance and probity;
- Ensure that the assets of the Company are safeguarded;
- Discuss all relevant issues, constructively challenge the views of management, make timely and
  informed decisions, exercise adequate control over and monitoring of the affairs of the
  Company;
- Establish the Company's purpose, strategy and values, and satisfy itself that these and its culture are aligned.
- Maintain a high standard of corporate governance proportionate to the size of the Company; and
- Delegate the effective day-to-day management of the Company to executive management.

The Board has authority to delegate certain responsibilities to Board sub-committees and executives and senior managers within the Company. However, the Board always remains accountable and cannot delegate this ultimate accountability.

The Company's Approved Person and Key Function Policy also governs the delegations, to ensure that individuals and committees have relevant qualifications, experience and knowledge to complete the task. The structure of the delegated responsibilities to all Board Committees is shown below.



#### **Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee is a Committee of the Company's Board and has been delegated responsibility for monitoring the integrity of the Company's Financial Statements and the adequacy and effectiveness of internal controls and the risk management system. This includes responsibility for the review of disclosures to the supervisory authority, including the SFCR, in addition to its UK GAAP statutory financial reporting and accounts disclosures.



The Members of the Committee are appointed by the Board following consultation with the Committee Chairman. The Committee will be composed of at least three members at all times, and must be composed only of Non-Executive Directors. At least one member of the Committee must have competence in accounting and/or auditing, and the remaining members should at a minimum have experience of dealing with financial and accounting matters.

The Committee Chair shall be appointed by the Board, and shall be an Independent Non-Executive Director. In the absence of the Chair and/or an appointed deputy, the remaining members present shall elect one of themselves to chair the meeting. The Chair of each meeting shall be an independent Non-Executive Director.

The Company's Chief Executive, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Actuary shall be invited to attend meetings of the Committee. In addition to appointed members, the Chair may invite other persons to attend all or part of any meeting.

Furthermore, Internal and External Audit shall have direct access to the Committee as appropriate.

The Committee shall meet at least four times a year, normally quarterly, and at such other times as the Chairman considers necessary or appropriate. In addition, ad hoc meetings shall be held whenever it is necessary to discuss any significant or critical aspects concerning the Company's financial control affairs and/or related matters.

#### **Risk and Compliance Committee**

The Risk and Compliance Committee is a Committee of the Company's Board and has been delegated responsibility for assisting the Board in its oversight of the risk management and compliance culture and ensuring compliance of the undertaking with all legal and administrative requirements. It also has delegated authority for:

- Overseeing the regulatory capital position;
- Advising the Board on the Company's risk appetite and risk, control and compliance exposure;
- Setting and monitoring the Company's risk management and compliance policies; and
- Ensuring the effectiveness of its Own Risk Solvency Assessment ("ORSA").

The Committee also aligns with the Remuneration Committee to embed a risk-based company-wide Remuneration Policy for the Company.

The members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Board following consultation with the Committee Chair. The Committee will be composed of at least three members at all times.

The Committee Chair shall be appointed by the Board, and shall be an Independent Non-Executive Director. In the absence of the Chair and/or an appointed deputy, the remaining members present shall elect one of themselves to chair the meeting. The Chair of each meeting shall be an Independent non-executive Director.

The Company's Chief Executive, the Chief Risk Officer, the Chief Financial Officer and the Chief Actuary shall be invited to attend meetings of the Committee. In addition to appointed members, the Chair may invite other persons to attend all or part of any meeting.

Furthermore, the Chief Risk Officer shall have direct access to the Committee as appropriate.

The Committee shall meet at least four times a year, normally quarterly and at such other times as the Chair considers necessary or appropriate. In addition, ad hoc meetings shall be held whenever it is necessary to discuss any significant or critical aspects concerning the Company's risk and compliance affairs and/or related matters.

# With-Profits Committee

The With-Profits Committee is a Committee of the Company's Board and has delegated responsibility to act in an advisory capacity to inform decision making by the Board in relation to the management of the Company's With-Profit Sub-Funds ("WPSFs"), including the way in which each of the WPSFs is



managed by the Company, including adherence to the Principles and Practices of Financial Management ("PPFM") and the future distribution of surplus in the WPSFs paying close regard to policyholders' reasonable expectations and in keeping with Treating Customers Fairly principles.

The Committee considers relevant matters affecting policyholders generally and matters which affect sub-groups of policyholders rather than individual cases.

The Committee Chair and other members of the Committee are appointed by the Board in consultation with the Chair. The majority of the members of the Committee are independent of the Company and its group of companies.

The With-Profits Committee will consist of no more than six members, and the Chair of the Committee and the majority of members shall not be directors of Utmost Life and Pensions. At least one member of the With-Profits Committee shall have recent and relevant financial experience and, preferably, hold a professional qualification from the professional actuarial body.

The Chair of the Board is not a member of the With-Profits Committee.

Only members of the With-Profits Committee have the right to attend With-Profits Committee meetings. However, other Directors and other individuals (including representatives of external advisers) may be invited to attend all or part of any meeting as and when appropriate in the opinion of the With-Profits Committee's Chair or the majority of its members.

The Committee meets at least four times a year at appropriate intervals in the financial reporting and with profits cycle, and otherwise as required.

#### **Investment Committee**

The Investment Committee is a Committee of Company's Board and has been delegated responsibility for recommending the overall strategic investment policy for the Board's consideration, and oversight and control of the Company's investment activities.

The Investment Committee shall seek to ensure that investment activities carried out are consistent with the Investment Policy as adopted by the Board, and Investment Guidelines issued pursuant to seeking the achievement of the objectives of the Investment Policy as issued from time to time. It exercises control over the execution of the Board's strategic decisions and the sound and efficient management of investment-related matters.

The members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Board following consultation with the Committee Chair. The Committee will be composed of at least three members at all times.

The Chair shall be appointed by the Board, but shall be an Independent Non-Executive Director. In the absence of the Chair and/or an appointed deputy, the remaining members present shall elect one of themselves to chair the meeting. The Chair of each meeting shall be an Independent Non-Executive Director.

The Company's Chief Executive, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Actuary, Chief Risk Officer, and the Head of Investments shall be invited to attend meetings of the Committee. In addition to appointed members, the Chairman may invite other persons to attend all or part of any meeting.

Furthermore, the Chief Financial Officer, the Chief Risk Officer and Head of Investments shall have direct access to the Committee as appropriate.

The Committee shall meet at least quarterly and at such other times as the Chair considers necessary or appropriate. In addition, ad hoc meetings shall be held whenever it is necessary to discuss any significant or critical aspects concerning the Company's investment affairs and/or related matters.

# **Remuneration Committee**

The Remuneration Committee is a Committee of the Company's Board and has been delegated responsibility for overseeing the Remuneration Policy, particularly for all Executive Directors and the



Company Chairman. The Board itself should determine the remuneration of the Non-Executive Directors within the limits set in the Board's Terms of Reference and those matters reserved for Group Company Boards.

No Director shall be involved in any decisions as to their own remuneration.

The members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Board following consultation with the Committee Chair. The Committee will be composed of at least three members at all times.

The Chair shall be appointed by the Board, but shall be an Independent non-executive Director. In the absence of the Chair and/or an appointed deputy, the remaining members present shall elect one of themselves to chair the meeting. The Chair of each meeting shall be an Independent Non-Executive Director. The Chair of the Board shall not be Chair of the Committee.

In addition to appointed members, the Chair may invite other persons to attend all or part of any meeting.

The membership and chairmanship of the Committee will be reviewed each year by the Board in consultation with the Chair to ensure that an appropriate balance is maintained between experience and independence. Changes as required will be recommended to the Board thereafter. The appointment of members to the Committee shall be for a period of up to three years, extendable up to two further periods of three years.

The Committee shall meet at least half-yearly and at such other times as the Chair considers necessary or appropriate. In addition, ad hoc meetings shall be held whenever it is necessary to discuss any significant or critical aspects concerning the Company's remuneration affairs and/or related matters.

#### **Nomination Committee**

The Nomination Committee is a Committee of the Company's Board and has been delegated responsibility for ensuring that the Board has a formal, rigorous and transparent procedure in place to manage the appointment of new Directors to the Board, and to ensure that the Board and its Committees have the appropriate balance of skills, experience, independence and knowledge to enable them to discharge their respective duties and responsibilities effectively, including succession planning.

The members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Board following consultation with the Committee Chair. The Committee will be composed of at least three members at all times.

Only members of the Committee have the right to attend Committee meetings. However, other individuals, such as the HR Director and external advisers, may be invited to attend for all or part of any meeting, as and when appropriate and necessary.

The Board has appointed the Committee Chair, who is the Chairman of the Board. The Chair of the Board shall not chair the Committee when it is dealing with the matter of succession to the chairmanship and the Chair will appoint a deputy for this purpose.

The membership and chairmanship of the Committee will be reviewed each year by the Board in consultation with the Chair to ensure that an appropriate balance is maintained between experience and independence. Changes as required will be recommended to the Board thereafter. The appointment of members to the Committee shall be for a period of up to three years, extendable up to two further periods of three years.

The Committee shall meet at least twice a year, and at such other times as the Chair considers necessary or appropriate.

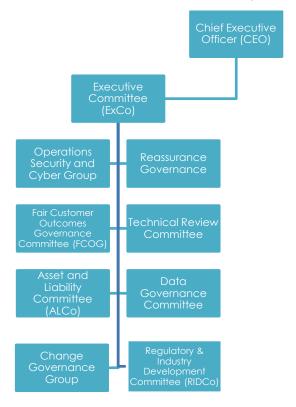
#### **Executive Sub-Committees**

In addition to the above Board committees, a range of Executive sub-committees are in place to support the Chief Executive Officer in his decision making. These committees have no delegated authority, with



the exception of the Asset and Liability Committee ("ALCO"), as outlined below, but make recommendations to the Chief Executive Officer.

During the reporting period, the executive committees that were in place are shown below.



#### **Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee ("ExCo") assists the Chief Executive Officer in managing the business, executing the business plan, monitoring deliverables and managing the associated risk. This includes liaising with the other executive sub-committees and responding to their recommendations.

Over the reporting period, the committee was comprised of the Chief Executive Officer, the Chief Financial Officer, the Chief Risk Officer, the Chief Actuary, the Customer Services Director, the IT Director, the HR Director and the Company Secretary / Head of Change. The Company Secretary acted as secretary to the Committee. This role was taken over by the HR Director part way through the year. The Committee aims to meet weekly, and a minimum of three members of the Committee are required to attend in order for business to be conducted.

# **Asset and Liability Committee**

The Asset and Liability Committee ("ALCo") supports the Chief Financial Officer in the ongoing management of investments, including agreeing criteria for fund investment and monitoring performance. It executes investment strategy as defined by the Board and the Investment Committee. It also oversees all related cash flow requirements.

It makes recommendations to the With-Profits Committee, the Investment Committee, the Executive Committee and the Risk and Compliance Committee about investment management strategy, cost, performance, unit pricing and asset allocation decisions to ensure that the interests of all policyholders have been appropriately considered and represented, and considers the impacts on the risk profile and appetite of the Company.



The committee comprises the Chief Financial Officer as Chair, the Chief Actuary, the Chief Risk Officer, the Head of Investments, the Financial Controller & Head of Unit-linked and the ALM Actuary, and meets at least monthly and more frequently as needed.

#### Fair Customer Outcomes Governance Committee

The Fair Customer Outcomes Governance Committee ("FCOG") reports to the ExCo and its role is to govern delivery of fair customer outcomes in line with the business strategy and regulatory expectations for Utmost Life and Pensions and its life insurance subsidiaries. The aim is to achieve fair outcomes for all policyholders, having regard to their characteristics and needs.

FCOG comprises the Chief Actuary as Chair, the Chief Financial Officer, and the Customer Services Director. The Chief Executive Officer, Compliance Manager, Head of Investments, Product Management Actuary, Customer Services Manager and Chief Risk Officer act as advisors to the committee.

The committee meets at least four times a year and more frequently as required.

#### **Data Governance Committee**

This committee is responsible for data policy, strategy, procedures, governance artefacts and other data inventories as part of the data governance process. The committee covers all data related to legal and regulatory requirements, including Solvency II and General Data Protection Regulation ("GDPR"), and exists to assist the Head of Operations in carrying out his responsibility to operate the Data Governance Framework, which in turn exists to ensure that the Company's legal and regulatory responsibilities for data are met.

The committee is comprised of the Information Security Officer as Chair, the Chief Actuary, the Chief Risk Officer, the Company Secretary / Head of Change, Chief Financial Officer, the IT Director, the Compliance Manager, the Data Quality Manager, and data owners (as required).

The committee meets at least four times a year.

# **Operations Security and Cyber Group**

This group exists to: ensure that IT security and cyber risk actions are occurring to schedule; assess changing security needs; and to ensure that adequate business continuity management capability exists and is tested successfully in accordance with the agreed test plan, to minimise disruption and losses (including fines and sanctions) arising from incidents.

#### **Reassurance Group**

This committee is chaired by the Chief Actuary and exists to review the management of the reassured book in accordance with the requirements of the Reassurance Agreements.

#### **Technical Review Committee**

This committee exists to debate, challenge, approve and, where necessary make recommendations to ExCo and Audit Committee on key model calculation methodologies, technical assumptions and limitations for finance and actuarial models. This committee is chaired by the Chief Actuary.

#### **Change Governance Group**

The Change Governance Group Committee ("CGG") is chaired by the Head of Change and is a cross function, cross-department meeting with representatives from areas impacted or participating in change and business-as-usual projects. The main objectives are to prioritise and schedule change initiatives in conjunction with the business strategy and objectives, and have overall responsibility for the delivery and direction of projects.



# Regulatory and Industry Development Committee

The Regulatory and Industry Development Committee ("RIDCo") is an important element of the Company's systems and controls, and is responsible for ensuring that regulatory or industry-wide changes relevant to the Company are identified in order to enable the business to respond appropriately. It reports into the CGG with any change programmes as a result of regulatory or industry developments.

#### **Individual Responsibilities**

The structure of the delegated responsibilities to individuals over the reporting period is given below.



Executive responsibilities are delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, with ultimate responsibility either retained or delegated to senior management and possibly further cascaded to individuals.

Senior managers have the authority to delegate their responsibilities to fit and proper staff, the approval and assessment of whom is defined in the Approved Person and Key Function Policy.

#### Integration of all governance

The Company's Management Responsibilities Map covers all these functions, with named individuals with the regulatory Senior Managers and Certification Regime ("SM&CR") functions as part of their responsibilities.

Risk management is the responsibility of all functional managers, with the Risk function providing oversight and reporting to the Risk and Compliance Committee. The Chief Risk Officer is a member of ExCo, and reviews the Company's risks with the senior team at least monthly, and at every Board meeting.

The Compliance function performs its role in a similar way, with the Compliance Manager reporting to the Chief Risk Officer.

The Chief Actuary is a member of the ExCo, and has a direct reporting line to the Audit Committee and the main Board.

# **Remuneration Policy and practices**

Remuneration of the Company's Directors and employees is overseen by the Remuneration Committee, as outlined above. The Committee aims to ensure that the Company's various remuneration structures encourage and support alignment between business decisions, individual behaviour, business performance and the Company's values, risk appetite and Capital Management Strategy ("CMS").

The remuneration of the Chairman, the Chief Executive, Executive Directors and senior managers is set by the Remuneration Committee in accordance with the Group Remuneration Policy. The primary objective of the Remuneration Policy is to ensure that each executive Director/senior manager is



provided with appropriate incentives to encourage exceptional performance and are rewarded for their individual contributions to the long-term success of the Company.

The principles underpinning the remuneration of the Company's executive Directors/senior managers are as follows:

- Remuneration in general should reflect individual performance and support the delivery of benefits and services to the Company and all its stakeholders;
- Remuneration should enable the Company to attract, retain and motivate executive Directors of the quality required to run the Company effectively; and
- Reviews of base salary will give due regard to information disclosed by comparable companies to bear a reasonable relationship to the scale of the role as well as to other factors. A performancerelated incentive scheme is in place for executive Directors and senior managers.

The Remuneration Committee takes care to ensure that any such bonus payments are appropriate and that the objectives upon which performance-related payments are assessed are closely aligned to the interests of the Company's customers and take into account the Company's current strategic position.

# **B.2** Fit and Proper Requirements

The Company has a Fit and Proper Policy in place that sets out the way in which the Company complies with the PRA's and the FCA's Fit and Proper requirements, with particular emphasis on the SM&CR.

As a result, the Company will ensure that its Senior Management Function ("'SMF") Holders, Notified Non-Executive Directors ("NNEDs"), Key Function Holders ("KFHs")), and Certification Function Holders ("CFHs"):

- Are, and remain, competent, fit and proper to discharge their responsibilities;
- Are aware of their obligations under the Regulators' relevant conduct rules and standards; and
- Are aware of the expectation to avoid, to the extent possible, activities that could create conflicts
  of interest or the appearance of conflicts of interest (via the Company's Conflicts of Interest Policy).

In addition, the Company will ensure that all of its SMF Holders are aware of their obligations under the Duty of Responsibility and has established, and maintains, appropriate mechanisms and systems to manage these arrangements.

The Company must ensure that all prospective SMF Holders are fit and proper to undertake the responsibilities being allocated to them. Whilst not expected individually, the Board must collectively possess appropriate qualifications, experience and knowledge about:

- Insurance and financial markets, including the wider business, economic and market environment in
  which the Company operates and an awareness of the level of knowledge and needs of its
  policyholders;
- The business strategy and business model, in detail;
- The Systems of Governance within the business, including the awareness and understanding of the risks the Company is facing and its capability of managing them; together with an ability to assess the effectiveness of the Company's arrangements to deliver effective governance, oversight and controls within the business and, if necessary, to oversee changes in these areas;
- Financial and actuarial analysis in order to interpret the Company's financial and actuarial
  information, identify key issues, put in place appropriate controls and take necessary measures
  based on this information; and
- The regulatory framework and requirements, including the capacity to adapt to changes to the regulatory framework, without delay.

Such assessment will be made at the most senior level, when considering the appointment of a director, to ensure that appropriate diversity is evident. This will take place prior to the due diligence process and



prior to the submission of the application form for regulatory approval for a prospective SMF Holder or notification form for an NNED.

The Company maintains a central register of SMF Holders, KFHs and CFHs in its Management Responsibilities Map. This records the names and positions of those SMF Holders who run the Company as and when appointed. The map is reviewed quarterly.

Once the Company has decided at the most senior level that it wishes to appoint an SMF Holder, the HR department will carry out the necessary due diligence checks in respect of the individual to be appointed. It will seek to establish information relating to any criminal, disciplinary, enforcement or administrative offences currently being tried or having been tried in the past relating to both the financial services industry and outside of the industry.

Whilst having previous infringements may not necessarily result in the person being assessed as not fit for the role being considered, HR will ensure that there is a judgement based on the widest information available concerning such offences. HR will co-ordinate the documentation of the assessments of competence, fitness and propriety before an application is submitted for approval to the regulatory authorities.

All regulatory applications will be submitted to the Regulators for approval by the Compliance team, once the due diligence process has been completed.

For employed staff, the Company has in place a performance management process to manage performance and to ensure continued suitability for each role. In addition an annual assessment of fitness and propriety is undertaken for all SMF Holders, NNEDs, KFHs and CFHs. An annual evaluation of the effectiveness of Board is also undertaken.

#### **B.3** Risk Management System

The Risk Management function is principally responsible for the ongoing implementation of the Company's RMF: the framework in place to identify and effectively manage the risks of the Company and support the achievement of the Company's corporate objectives.

The following table describes the elements of the Company's RMF.

RMF Overview				
Area	Description			
Risk Universe Identification of all the risks that could affect the Company.				
Risk Strategy Articulates the Company's approach to the taking on and management of risk.				
Risk Appetite Statement	The Company's view on the level and type of risk that it is willing to take on in the pursuit of achieving its strategic objective and business plan.			
Risk Governance	The method used for directing and controlling the management of risk.			
Risk Policies	The Company maintains a policy for each risk class in its risk universe. Each policy documents the Company's approach to the management of the individual risk class.			
Risk Culture	Determines the values, knowledge, understanding and behaviour with regard to risk.			



RMF Overview				
Area	Description			
Risk Management Process	Identifies and articulates the key elements of the Risk Management Process. These key elements are described in the table below.			
Risk Management Information	Underpins the Board/senior management's: (i) understanding of the Company; and (ii) decision-making capabilities.			
Stress Testing Framework Provides insight into how the Company may be affected by alternative and type adverse conditions.				
Capital Management	Articulates the Company's approach to the management of capital and the responsibilities of the Capital Management function.			

The following table summarises the processes used to identify, measure, monitor, manage and report the risks of the Company.

Process	Description		
Risk Identification  Key elements of the process include: control risk self-assessment, Risk Managem function analysis, senior management analysis, ExCo review, Risk and Compliar Committee review, and ORSA analysis.			
Risk Section C provides details of the risk measures for each material/relevant risk identified by the Company.			
Risk Monitoring	Senior management and Board level review of the risk measures articulated for each risk class.		
Risk Management	The management and mitigation techniques used for each risk class are articulated.		
Risk Reporting	Regular review by senior management and the Board of the Company's risk reporting, which includes: risk profile, ORSA reporting, risk reports, Key Risk Indicators ("KRIs") and loss data.		

Risk management is the responsibility of all functional managers, with the Risk function providing oversight and reporting to the Risk and Compliance Committee. The Chief Risk Officer is a member of ExCo, and reviews the Company's risks with the senior team at least monthly, and at every main Board meeting. The Risk and Compliance Committee provides oversight of the Company's risk management.

The Company operates the 'three lines of defence' model for risk management and oversight:

- Line 1 has responsibility for the management of risk across the organisation and comprises executive committees, management and staff;
- Line 2 is responsible for the provision of oversight to ensure that the first line is managing risk within the Board-approved risk appetite and in line with the RMF; this line consists of the Risk function and the Risk and Compliance Committee; and
- Line 3 is responsible for providing independent assurance on the effectiveness of internal controls and risk management processes across the first and second line, and is performed by the Internal Auditors reporting to the Audit Committee.

Consideration of the Company's risk appetite statement is a key component of the Company's decision-making process. Material decisions made by the Company are fully considered, documented and



evidenced in terms of alignment with the Company's risk appetite. The Company's risk appetite statement articulates the process to be followed if any prospective actions or decisions have the potential to lead to non-alignment with the Company's risk appetite.

# **B.4** Own Risk and Solvency Assessment

The Company's Own Risk and Solvency Assessment ("ORSA") policy is the primary means by which the Board and other key stakeholders are provided with a comprehensive understanding of the Company's risk profile and expected capital needs over its business planning period. The analysis, findings and recommendations (i.e. the output) from the ORSA are therefore a key part of the Board's strategic decision-making process and the way in which these decisions are implemented by senior management.

Equally, the Company's current strategic objectives, business plan and target risk profile are also key inputs into the scope and focus of the ORSA. The Company's Board, together with senior management, play a significant and ongoing role in determining the set of scenarios which will be included in the ORSA, the assumptions for each of these scenarios, and the criteria against which the results will be assessed.

The following table sets out the main components of the Company's ORSA process.

ORSA Process				
Work Stream	Activity	Description		
Design	Process & Document Design	Review of existing ORSA process and documentation to ensure the ORSA remains fit for purpose and compliant with current guidelines.		
	Regular ORSA Update	A regular update on the risk appetites, risk profile of the Company, and an update on any investigations or actions.		
	ORSA Policy	Update of the existing ORSA policy to ensure it reflects the purpose, scope, process and aims of the Company's ORSA.		
Reporting & Documentation	Annual ORSA Report	A full reforecast of the solvency position and risk profile of the Company, under base and alternative scenario conditions, including an assessment of the risks faced in implementing the strategy and business plan under a variety of scenarios.		
	Submission	Submission of the completed ORSA Report to the Prudential Regulatory Authority (PRA)		
Standard Formula Testing	Standard Formula Appropriatene ss Exercise	Analysis of the standard formula SCR relative to the Company's current and emerging risk profile, to ensure it remains appropriate.		
Scenario Development	Scenario Design & Definition	Development of the alternative scenarios which will be assessed within the Company's ORSA framework.		
	ORSA Basis	Basis setting exercise to define the parameters and assumptions to use in the ORSA balance sheet projections.		
Model Development & Inputs	ORSA Model Development	Further development of the existing ORSA projection models.		
	ORSA Data	Exercise to gather, check and validate the data feeding into the Company's ORSA process.		
Projections	ORSA Projection Runs	Projection of the Company's balance sheet and risk profile under base and alternative scenarios, before and after management actions.		



ORSA Process		
Work Stream	Activity	Description
	ORSA Control & Validation	Control and validation process applied to the ORSA projection runs to ensure they are free from error.
Use	Strategy & Business Plan	Insight from the ORSA informs the Company's strategic direction and business planning.
	Risk Appetite & Limits Review	ORSA forecasts used to assess the Company's alignment with risk appetite and the individual risk limits. The ORSA is also used to review the appropriateness of the current limits.
	Investigation	ORSA analysis used to identify areas for further investigation, typically carried out by either the risk or actuarial functions.
	Decision Making	The ORSA is a key management tool in the decision-making processes of the Company.

All components of the ORSA undergo an initial review by either the Chief Actuary, the Chief Risk Officer and the Head of Capital and ALM. Depending on the component concerned, the scope of this initial review ensures that the structure, style and content will be understood and correctly interpreted by the Board, the Risk and Compliance Committee, senior management and any other users (for example, department heads and the Regulators)

The output undergoes a thorough review process, which affords the Company's Board, committee members, and senior management the opportunity to interrogate, challenge and feedback on the various inputs into and outputs from the ORSA analysis before sign-off.

The ORSA is carried out annually, and is updated during the year in the event of any material change to the Company's risk profile. The Chief Risk Officer has overall responsibility for the ORSA process and the ORSA report. The Actuarial function carries out the calculations.

# **B.5** Internal Control System

The Company maintains an Internal Control Framework to ensure that internal control practices are established, implemented and maintained in line with the objectives, strategy, risk appetite and long-term interests of the Company as a whole. The framework describes the controls and procedures in place to ensure:

- The effectiveness and efficiency of operations;
- Compliance with applicable regulations; and
- Availability and reliability of financial and non-financial information.

The framework applies to all activities and processes undertaken by the Company to ensure that it operates an effective internal control system, and sits within the internal controls framework which collates the sub-policies and processes to which this framework applies.

The Company's Board is ultimately responsible for ensuring that there is an effective internal control framework, and for establishing a culture within the Company that emphasises and demonstrates to all levels of personnel the importance of internal controls. Management is responsible for the implementation of the relevant rules and guidance. All employees need to understand their role in the internal control framework and be fully engaged in the process.

The framework forms a part of the Company's System of Governance. It is owned by the CRO and approved by the Board. Individual policies within the framework are subject to their own governance requirements, as specified in the individual policies.



The framework is reviewed on an annual basis by the ExCo, or more frequently where necessary, to ensure that it remains up to date and relevant to the processes which it is intended to control. Strategy, organisational structure and risk profile changes may trigger ad hoc reviews of this policy.

The purpose of internal control is to support the Company in the achievement of its objectives. The Company has identified four key components of the internal control framework, as follows:

- Corporate Governance;
- Risk Management;
- Compliance; and
- Information and Communication.

Each of the internal control components is described in more detail in the Internal Controls Policy.

The Company operates the 'three lines of defence' model for oversight:

- Line 1 has the responsibility for the management of controls across the organisation and comprises executive committees, management and staff;
- Line 2 is responsible for the provision of oversight to ensure that the first line is managing controls within the internal control system and associated policies. This is performed by the Risk function, Compliance the Risk and Compliance Committee;

Line 3 is responsible for providing independent assurance on the effectiveness of internal controls across the first and second lines. This is performed by Internal Audit, reporting to the Audit Committee.

#### **B.6** Internal Audit Function

The Company's Internal Audit function provides assurance over the operation of governance, risk management and the system of internal control.

Internal Audit is an independent, effective and objective function established by the Board to examine and evaluate the adequacy, functioning, effectiveness and efficiency of the internal control system and all other elements of the System of Governance, with a view to improving the efficacy and efficiency of the internal control system, of the Company and of the governance processes. This is set out in the Internal Audit Policy, and the Audit Committee's Terms of Reference.

Internal Audit supports the Board in identifying the strategies and guidelines on internal control and risk management, ensuring that they are appropriate and valid over time, and provides the Board with analysis, appraisals, recommendations and information concerning the activities reviewed. It also carries out assurance and advisory activities for the benefit of the Board, ExCo and other departments.

Internal Audit's authority is enshrined in its Policy, which is reviewed and approved annually by the Audit Committee and the Board. As a result, Internal Audit has full, free, unrestricted and timely access to any and all the organisation's records, physical properties, and personnel pertinent to carry out any engagement, with strict accountability for confidentiality and safeguarding records and information.

Internal Audit governs via the Company's Internal Audit methodology. This methodology is aligned with the Institute of Internal Auditors' mandatory guidance including the Definition of Internal Auditing, the Code of Ethics, and the International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing (Standards). This mandatory guidance constitutes principles of the fundamental requirements for the professional practice of auditing and for evaluating the effectiveness of the audit activity's performance. Given the delicate and important nature of the assurance role carried out within the business, all Internal Audit staff must have specific fit and proper requirements, as requested by the Company's Fit and Proper Policy.

Internal Audit remains free from interference by any element in the Company, including matters of audit selection, scope, procedures, frequency, timing or report content to permit maintenance of a necessary independent and objective mental attitude. On an annual basis, the Head of Internal Audit will confirm his/her independence and that of Internal Audit to the Audit Committee. Independence and objectivity from the activities that Internal Audit reviews is achieved by ensuring that:



- There is a direct reporting line from Internal Audit to the Audit Committee;
- All Internal Audit activities are free from influence from anyone in the Company, including matters of audit selection, scope, procedures, frequency, timing or report content;
- Members of the Internal Audit function are able to meet with the Audit Committee in private session if required;
- Internal Audit has the resources and necessary skills required to deliver the Audit plan, both in general audit and technical areas, and support facilities;
- Internal Audit has the authority to audit all parts of the Company; and
- Internal Audit has full and complete access to all information, records, facilities and personnel relevant to the performance of an audit.

To prevent potential conflicts of interest from arising, the Group Head of the Internal Audit Function shall allocate tasks and set goals within the function in promoting rotation of duties and responsibilities within the team.

On an annual basis, the Head of Internal Audit presents a proposed 12-month plan to the Audit Committee requesting approval. This plan is developed based on an audit universe using a risk-based methodology, taking into account all past audit activities, the complete System of Governance output, the expected developments of activities and innovations and including input from ExCo and the Board.

The Head of Internal Audit reviews the plan on an ongoing basis and adjusts it in response to changes in the Company's business, risks, operations, programs, systems, controls and findings.

This review is informal and any change to the plan is first approved by the Chair of the Audit Committee. Following the conclusion of each Internal Audit engagement, a written audit report is prepared and issued to the auditee and the auditee's hierarchy. The Head of Internal Audit, on a quarterly basis, provides the Audit Committee with a report on activities, status of open and overdue audit issues, any significant issues and audit reports issued during the period. However, in the event of any particularly serious situation, such as the emergence of a conflict of interest, the Head of Internal Audit will immediately inform the Audit Committee and the Board.

# **B.7** Actuarial Function

The Actuarial function consists of employees of the Company supplemented by external consultants to provide additional resource when needed. The Chief Actuary has overall responsibility for the output from the Actuarial Function. The Chief Actuary is a Fellow of the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries and holds a Chief Actuary (Life) Practising Certificate. He is also the approved person for the senior managers function Chief Actuary. The current responsibilities of the Actuarial function are detailed in the following table.

Balance Sheet Valuation	Carry out annual and quarterly valuations of the Company's assets and other liabilities, Technical Provisions, and capital requirements consistent with Solvency II.
Balance Sheet Forecasting	Carry out a forecast of the Company's projected solvency position over its business planning period under central best estimate and alternative scenario assumptions for consideration within the ORSA framework.
Transitional Measures	Calculate the Company's Transitional Measure on Technical Provisions ("TMTPs"") and monitor the metrics against the triggers for recalculation.
Matching Adjustment	Recalculate the MA) and monitor the Company's compliance with the rules required to continue to use the MA.
Solvency Monitoring	Estimate the Solvency II balance sheet on a monthly basis to monitor the Company's solvency position.



Data Quality	Assess the sufficiency and quality of the data used in the calculation of the Company's technical provisions.
Experience Analysis	Analyse the Company's recent historic demographic experience (for example, mortality and persistency) to inform assumption setting.
Assumption Setting	Recommend the demographic, expense and economic assumptions to be used in the Company's balance sheet valuation and forecasting based on internal experience analysis and reference to relevant external market or industry variables.
Model Development	Maintain and develop the model required to value the Company's policyholder liabilities under central best estimate assumptions and the Solvency II Standard Formula stress tests.
Bonus Setting	Recommend the regular and terminal bonuses to be paid to the Company's with-profits policyholders.
Run-Off Planning	Prepare the recommended run-off plans for the Company's with-profits funds including, for each fund, a description of the governance of the fund, details of how the Company intends to manage the risk profile and funding position, and a projection of the fund's expected financial position.
Reinsurance and Underwriting	Provide an opinion to the Board on the adequacy of the Company's reinsurance arrangements and underwriting policy.

A more detailed description of the tasks of the Actuarial Function, as defined by Solvency II regulation, and how they are fulfilled by the Company is provided in the Actuarial Function Policy.

#### **B.8** Assessment of Governance

#### **Outsourcing and Contracts Policy**

The Company's Outsourcing and Contracts Policy applies to both existing and proposed outsourcing arrangements, as well as to contracts with third-party suppliers, which are not considered outsourcing by the Company.

The key elements of the policy cover requirements for:

- Decision making;
- Negotiation;
- Outsourcing procedures;
- Re-evaluation;
- Contractual arrangements;
- Transition planning;
- Supplier management and monitoring (see below); and
- Policy breaches.

# Supplier management and monitoring

With regard to ongoing management and monitoring of outsourced functions or activities, the following is required:

- The Company must retain the necessary expertise to supervise the supplied functions effectively and to manage the associated risks;
- The owner of each arrangement must retain responsibility for the activity and must ensure that any ongoing risks are properly managed;
- A proportionate supplier management and oversight regime must be defined at the outset;
- The business owner must ensure that the supplier management and oversight regime operates effectively and that any appropriate remedial action is taken;



- The effectiveness of the service or activity provided by the supplier must be reviewed at least annually by the sponsor or business owner. This should include an assessment of the requirement for an appropriate level of fresh due diligence and a review of the suitability of the existing contractual arrangements;
- The decision to continue with the arrangement must be reviewed at least triennially;
- The measures of performance of the supplier should be both qualitative and quantitative; and
- The approved control regime, service reports, meeting minutes and other items relating to the
  monitoring and execution of each contract must be retained by the authoriser of each
  arrangement.

#### **Key outsourced functions**

During 2021 the Company did not enter into any new strategic or material outsourcing arrangements.

One contract arrangement, that of ISIS/Papyrus increased significantly in scale and some outsource services were engaged for workflow implementation and Online Servicing development.

Additionally, the third party outsourcing policy and outsource initiation and monitoring processes were enhanced to meet the PRA requirements which come into force 31 March 2022.

All of the outsourced functions are within the jurisdiction of the UK.

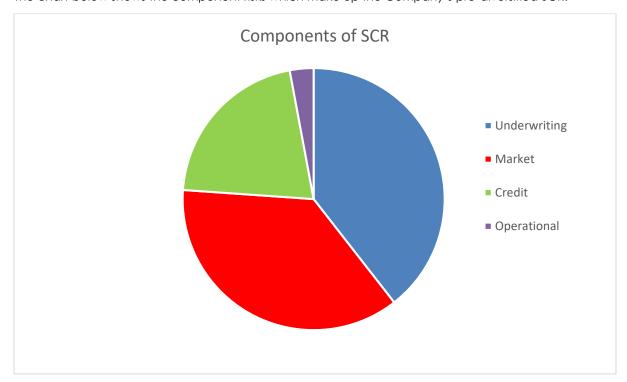
#### **Assessment of Governance**

Key elements of the Company's System of Governance including the risk management system (including ORSA), the Internal Control System, and the Internal Audit function are all subject to ongoing oversight and review by senior management and the Board to ensure that they remain effective and fit for purpose. As at 31 December 2021, the Board was of the view that the System of Governance is at an appropriate level and was in line with requirements. The Board delegate's authority to the Chief Executive to facilitate the day-to-day management of the Company, subject to the limits and terms set out in a delegated authority schedule. The Board may still determine any matter it wishes within its constitutional and statutory powers.



# C. RISK PROFILE

The Company manages risk and risk exposures through a well-defined RMF, as detailed in Section B. The chart below shows the component risks which make up the Company's pre-diversified SCR.



Underwriting risk is the largest capital item on the current book. The primary source of the current risk exposure relates to unit-linked business. The Company collects Annual Management Charges (AMCs) as a percentage of unit-linked funds. There is the risk that early terminations reduce income from AMCs. Underwriting risk also includes the Company's exposure to longevity risks in the annuity portfolio and expense risk.

The second largest capital item is Market risk. The unit-linked funds typically have high equity exposures, making the AMCs dependent on equity markets. This is the primary equity exposure. Similarly, Unit-linked policyholders can choose to invest in overseas funds. The values and hence AMCs on these funds are exposed to currency risk.

Credit risk is the next largest arising from corporate bonds within the unit-linked funds making the AMCs dependent on spread movements. There is also exposure is to credit risk, due to the large portfolio of corporate bonds which match fixed/guaranteed liabilities, primarily annuities.

The largest exposure to counterparty default risk is to a non-collateralised reinsurance treaty with Scottish Widows (ultimate parent Lloyds Banking Group).

In addition, the Company maintains registers of qualitative business risks. Descriptions of the categories of risks to which the Company is exposed are detailed below, together with the measurement, management and mitigation followed.

#### C.1 Underwriting Risk

# C.1.1 Risk exposures

The table overleaf provides a description of the Company's material underwriting risk exposures as determined by the Company's Risk Management function.



Risk Category	Risk Sub- Category	Description
	Baseline Persistency Risk	The risk that the Company's best estimate assumptions for the long-term level of lapse, surrender and paid-up rates are different to actual experience.
Persistency	Mass Lapse Risk	The risk of an immediate withdrawal of a significant proportion of the Company's in-force business.
	Baseline GAO Take-Up Risk	The risk that the Company's best estimate assumptions for the level of GAO take-up are too low relative to actual experience.
	Expense Inflation Risk	The risk that the Company's best estimate assumptions for the future rate of expense inflation are too low relative to actual experience.
	Project Cost Risk	The risk of higher than expected costs associated with the development and delivery of the Company's projects.
Expense	Claims Management Expense Risk	The risk of higher than expected expenses relating to servicing claims on the Company's in-force book.
	Maintenance Expense Risk	The risk of higher than expected expenses related to the maintenance of the in-force book, which includes general business overheads but excludes project costs.
Longevity	Baseline Longevity Risk	The risk that the Company's best estimate assumptions for the level of base mortality are too high relative to actual experience.
	Longevity Improvements Risk	The risk that the Company's best estimate assumptions for future mortality improvements are too low relative to actual experience.

The Company's most material underwriting risk exposure in terms of risk capital during the reporting period was persistency risk. The Company is primarily a unit-linked book of business and there is the risk that early terminations reduce annual management charges. This makes mass lapse the most onerous test.

The second largest Underwriting risk is Expense risk (which arises because the majority of the Company's operational activity is carried out in house). The Company is exposed to the risk that expenses are higher than allowed for in the best estimate assumptions.

The next largest is Longevity risk (which arises primarily on the Company's significant in-force book of inpayment annuities). The Company has in place a longevity swap for the annuitant liability in the NPF to manage its risk exposure.

#### C.1.2 Risk measures

The table below sets out the main tools used by the Company to measure its underwriting risks.

Measurement Tool	Measure
Stress Testing	Impact on the Company's Own Funds of a 99.5th percentile one-year level change in the risk variable(s) corresponding to each underwriting risk (carried out using the Solvency II Standard Formula calibration).
Reverse Stress Testing	Severity of risk event/deterioration in experience in respect of a particular underwriting risk exposure that would be required to breach the Company's point(s) of non-viability or other limits.



Measurement Tool	Measure
Scenario Testing	Potential effect on the Company's solvency position and risk profile of alternative scenarios involving short- or long-term changes to one or more of the Company's underwriting risk variables.
Sensitivity Testing	Impact on the Company's solvency position of changes in the risk variable(s) corresponding to each underwriting risk.
Experience Analysis	Comparison of recent demographic and expense experience with historic internal experience, wider industry experience, and current best estimate assumptions.
Experience Monitoring	Quarterly/monthly review of recent experience.
Budget Analysis	Comparison of recent experience with budgeted or forecast amounts.

Not all of the above risk measures are used to measure all of the Company's different underwriting risk exposures.

#### C.1.3 Risk concentrations

The Company does not currently carry out any formal investigation into or analysis of concentrations of underwriting risk, on the basis that these are not considered to be material.

In particular, the Company does not believe that the current in-force book contains any material concentrations of policyholders by location, health, lifestyle or socio-economic group. To the extent that the current in-force book is sufficiently large and well diversified, it should be protected by short-term variations in experience.

# C.1.4 Risk management and mitigation

The table below sets out the specific risk management and risk mitigation approaches the Company uses in respect of its underwriting risk exposures.

Risk Mitigation	Description
Risk Appetite	Statements covering the Company's approach towards underwriting risk.
Economic Capital	Economic Capital held on the Company's regulatory balance sheet in respect of each of its material underwriting risk exposures (derived using the Solvency II Standard Formula approach).
Reinsurance	Full or partial transfer of underwriting risk to reinsurance counterparties, including the use of longevity-swap arrangements on the Company's in-payment annuities.
Assumption Setting	Annual assumption-setting exercise to ensure that the assumptions used to determine the Company's Technical Provisions appropriately reflect the current best estimate of future underwriting experience.
Claims Underwriting	Underwriting to determine the initial or ongoing validity of claims relating to exclusion clauses, non-disclosure, fraud, etc.
Budget Reforecasting	Regular updates to the Company's business plan and expense budget to ensure that forecasts continue to reflect expected experience.
Cost Control	Cost control activity to ensure that expenditure remains within plan.



Risk Monitoring	Regular senior management and Board level review of the risk measures discussed in section C.1.2.
Business Retention	The Company has put in place activities to enable it to manage persistency risk including a business retention strategy. This includes the Utmost Drawdown plan which was launched in March 2020. The availability of that product has enabled those policyholders wishing to access their tax free cash and/or drawdown to now do so with ULP without transferring to another company.

Not all of the above risk management and mitigation approaches are used in respect of all of the Company's different underwriting risk exposures.

The Company does not anticipate making any material changes to its current approach to managing and mitigating its underwriting risk exposures. In particular, it currently has no plans to either introduce any new or stop using any existing risk mitigation practices.

#### C.2 Market Risk

#### C.2.1 Risk exposures

The table below provides a description of the Company's material market risk exposures as determined by the Company's Risk Management function.

Risk Category	Risk Description
Equity Prices	Risk of adverse changes (i.e. falls) in the level of equity prices, which reduces the value of the Company assets or increases the value of its liabilities.
Currency Movements	Risk of loss or of adverse change in the Company's financial situation (for example, decreasing the value of the Company's assets or increasing the value of its liabilities) resulting, directly or indirectly, from fluctuations in the level and in the volatility of foreign exchange rates.
Interest Rates	Risk of unexpected changes in the level and/or shape of the term structure of UK risk-free interest rates which adversely affects the value of the Company's assets, liabilities, capital requirements and/or cash flows.
Gilt – Swap Spread	Risk that the spreads between gilt rates and swap rates (based on the PRA curve) widens, increasing the level of volatility on the Company's balance sheet.  Risk of inconsistent movements in UK gilt yields and swap rates (based on the PRA curve), leading to inconsistent movements in the value of the Company's assets and Technical Provisions.

The largest Market risk exposure is Equity risk. The Company collects Annual Management Charges ("AMCs") as a percentage of unit-linked funds. The unit-linked funds typically have high equity exposures, making the AMCs dependent on equity markets. This will be the primary equity exposure. Unit-linked policyholders can choose to invest in overseas funds. The values and hence AMCs on these funds are also exposed to currency risk.

Despite having a relatively low level of capital impact under the Solvency II Standard Formula stress tests, interest rate risk is one of the Company's most material market related risk (excluding spread widening and concentration risks [see section C.3.1 below]). The Company's assets and Best Estimate Liabilities ("BELs") are well matched, which means that that movements in interest rates have a similar impact on the assets and liabilities and so the net impact on the balance sheet is small. However, the presence of the Risk Margin within the Technical Provisions introduces significant balance sheet sensitivity to changes in interest rates. In addition, movements in interest rates, by increasing or decreasing the value of assets



and liabilities, will increase or decrease the size of the balance sheet. This will have a secondary impact on other SCR capital requirements by applying the SCR stresses to a larger or smaller balance sheet.

#### C.2.2 Risk measures

The table below sets out the main tools used by the Company to measure market risk.

Measurement Tool	Measure	
Stress Testing	Impact on the Company's Own Funds of a 99.5th percentile one-year level change in the risk variable(s) corresponding to each market risk (carried out using the Solvency II Standard Formula calibration).	
Reverse Stress Testing	Severity of risk event/deterioration in experience in respect of a particular market risk exposure that would be required to breach the Company's point(s) of non-viability or other limits.	
Scenario Testing	Potential effect on the Company's solvency position and risk profile of alternative scenarios involving short- or long-term changes to one or more of the Company's market risk variables.	
Sensitivity Testing	Impact on the Company's solvency position of small changes in the risk variable(s) corresponding to each market risk.	
Portfolio Reporting	Measures and metrics contained within the Company's asset and investment reports which cover its asset portfolios, asset and liability management ("ALM"), and hedging activity.	
Market Monitoring	Market performance and risk variables, such as interest rates, equity indices, spreads and volatility indices.	

Not all of the above risk measures are used to measure all of the Company's different market risk exposures.

#### C.2.3 Risk concentrations

The Company's market and credit-related risk concentrations are covered in section C.3.3 below.

## C.2.4 Risk management and mitigation

The table below sets out the specific risk management and risk mitigation approaches the Company uses in respect of its market risk exposures.

Risk Mitigation	Description	
Risk Appetite	Statements covering the Company's approach towards market risk.	
Economic Capital	Economic Capital held on the Company's regulatory balance sheet in respect of each of its material market risk exposures (derived using the Solvency II Standard Formula approach).	
Asset Liability Management	The Company actively pursues an asset liability matching strategy. In particular, within the NPF, the Company operates two MA portfolios which have strict matching requirements.	
Investment Guidelines – Limit Structures	The Investment Guidelines for each of the Company's investment portfolio set out limit structures for the assets permitted within each portfolio. Market risk is an important factor in the choice of available assets.	



Capital Management of WPSFs	The Company aims to have the WPSFs standing alone and meeting their own capital requirements (excluding operational risk). As a result, the market risk exposure of the WPSFs is controlled to facilitate this.
Risk Monitoring	Regular senior management and Board level review of the risk measures discussed in section C.2.2.

## Risk management and mitigation

Not all of the above risk management and mitigation approaches are used in respect of all of the Company's different market risk exposures.

The Company does not anticipate making any material changes to its current approach to managing and mitigating its market risk exposures. In particular, it currently has no plans to either introduce any new, or stop using any existing, risk mitigation practices.

## C.3 Credit Risk

## C.3.1 Risk exposures

The table below provides a description of the Company's material credit risk exposures as determined by the Company's Risk Management function.

Risk Category	Risk Description
Credit Spreads	Risk that the value of future cash flows is exposed to fluctuations in spreads on corporate bonds, resulting in changes in the value of corporate bond holdings.
Counterparty Default	
(Fixed-interest and other money market instruments, cash deposits)	Risk of default on interest or capital repayments on corporate debt and other bond instruments, and cash deposits.
Countain subs	Risk of negative impacts on the Company's solvency position as a result of asset downgrades.
Counterparty Downgrade	Increased exposure to credit spread widening and counterparty default if any downgrade reflects a genuine increase in the riskiness of the counterparty.
Concentration	
(Fixed-interest and other money market instruments, cash deposits)	Additional risk to the Company stemming either from lack of diversification in the asset portfolio or from large exposure to default risk by a single issuer of securities or a group of related issuers.
Derivative Counterparty Default	Risk that derivative counterparties default on contracts that are 'in-the-money' causing financial loss to the Company.
Reinsurance Counterparty Default	Risk that one (or more) of the Company's reinsurance counterparties is unable to meet its financial obligations to the Company.

Consistent with the above presentation of the Company's credit risk profile, it should be noted that spread risk, which is assessed within the market risk module of the Standard Formula SCR, is considered by the Company to belong to the credit risk class.



Similarly, concentration risk, which is also assessed within the market risk module of the Standard Formula SCR, primarily relates to the risk of concentrated counterparty exposures on the Company's bond holdings and cash deposits. Concentration risk is therefore also considered by the Company to belong to the credit risk class.

Assessed in terms of undiversified risk capital, spread risk is the most material credit risk to which the Company is currently exposed. Spread risks primarily arise due to: the significant holdings of corporate bonds which are used to back the Company's large block of in-payment annuities; and via corporate bond holdings in the unit-linked funds which make the value of AMCs dependent on spread movements.

The Company's balance sheet would also be significantly affected if one or more of its material counterparty exposures were to default. The largest exposure to counterparty default risk is to a non-collateralised reinsurance treaty with Scottish Widows (ultimate parent Lloyds Banking Group).

#### C.3.2 Risk measures

The table below sets out the main tools used by the Company to measure credit risks.

Measurement Tool	Measure	
Stress Testing	Impact on the Company's Own Funds of a 99.5th percentile one-year level change in the risk variable(s) corresponding to each credit risk (carried out using the Solvency II Standard Formula calibration).	
Reverse Stress Testing	Severity of risk event/deterioration in experience in respect of a particular credit risk exposure that would be required to breach the Company's point(s) of non-viability or other limits.	
Scenario Testing	Potential effect on the Company's solvency position and risk profile of alternative scenarios involving short- or long- term changes to one or more of the Company's credit risk variables, for example, credit spreads and defaults.	
Sensitivity Testing	Impact on the Company's solvency position of small changes in the risk variable(s) corresponding to each credit risk.	
Portfolio Reporting	Measures/metrics contained within the Company's asset and investment reports which cover exposure limits, credit rating information, downgrades, counterparty exposure and other information relevant to credit risk.	
Market Monitoring	Credit risk variables including corporate bond spread indices split out by duration and credit rating.	

Not all of the above risk measures are used to measure all of the Company's different credit risk exposures.

#### C.3.3 Risk concentrations

#### **Financial instruments**

The Company has substantial holdings in UK government issued assets (i.e. gilts). As such, the Company does not consider that either of these exposures poses a material concentration of risk. The Company's direct investment holdings and bank deposits are well diversified.

The top five counterparty exposures by value across its non-linked investments as at 31 December 2021 were, by issuer, as follows: EDF (£22.9m); GlaxoSmithKline (£18.6m); Wells Fargo (£16.3m); JP Morgan (£13.0m) and European Investment Bank (£12.4m).

Each of these top holdings individually contributes less than 5% to total non-linked investments and, whilst the complete default of any one would have a significant impact on the Company's Own Funds, the



issuers are sufficiently highly rated that the Company does not consider the holdings to be above an acceptable level.

#### **Reinsurance counterparties**

The table below shows the 'net exposure' (i.e. the value of reinsurance assets and liabilities) in respect of the Company's most material reinsurance arrangements as at 31 December 2021, under both base and longevity stress scenarios.

	Net exposure, £m, 2021		
Reinsurer	Base	Longevity Stress (20% stress on mortality rates)	
TRZ	(12.9)	(2.2)	
RGA	(49.8)	(33.0)	
London Life	(4.5)	(1.7)	
Swiss Re	4.1	4.1	
Pacific Life	2.9	2.9	
Hanover Re	4.0	4.5	
Scottish Widows	325.5	354.2	

## **Reinsurance Counterparties**

The largest counterparty exposure is to a non-collateralised reinsurance treaty with Scottish Widows (ultimate parent Lloyds banking Group) with a value of c.£325.5m at 31 December 2021.

The Company does not consider the level of exposure to any of the other particular reinsurers to be significant or to represent a concentration of risk. The negative reinsurance values arise because the cost of the reinsurance arrangement exceeds the benefit it provides.

The recent slow-down in the rate of longevity improvement has reduced the expected income from the reinsurers ('the floating leg') but the payments made to the reinsurers ('the fixed leg') have not changed because these were fixed when the expected cost of future payments was higher.

## C.3.4 Risk management and mitigation

The table below sets out the specific risk management and risk mitigation approaches the Company uses in respect of its credit risk exposures.

Risk Mitigation	Description		
Risk Appetite	Statements covering the Company's approach towards credit risk.		
Economic Capital	Economic Capital held on the Company's regulatory balance sheet in respect of each of its material credit risk exposures (derived using the Solvency II Standard Formula approach).		
Investment Guidelines: Limit Structures	The Investment Guidelines for each of the Company's investment portfolios include credit-related exposure limits which constrain the assets permitted within each portfolio.		
Asset Optimisation  Optimisation of assets within specific portfolios, including the sale of a which result in a disproportionate or unwanted level of exposure to a spread risk or concentration risk relative to the objectives of those portional or concentration risk relative to the objectives of those portional or concentration risk relative to the objectives of those portional or concentration risk relative to the objectives of those portional or concentration risk relative to the objectives of those portional or concentration risk relative to the objectives of those portional or concentration risk relative to the objectives of those portional or concentration risk relative to the objective of those portional or concentration risk relative to the objective of those portional or concentration risk relative to the objective risk relative to the objective risk relative risk relative			



Matching AdjustmentAdherence to the requirements necessary to maintain approval to us MA, which includes close Asset Liability Management.		
Collateral Arrangements	See below for the reporting period.	
Risk Monitoring	Regular senior management and Board level review of the risk measures discussed in section C.3.2.	

Not all of the above risk management and mitigation approaches are used in respect of all of the Company's different credit risk exposures. The Company does not anticipate making any material changes to its current approach to managing and mitigating its credit risk exposures. In particular, it currently has no plans to either introduce any new or stop using any existing risk mitigation practices for the business in force during the reporting period.

## C.4 Operational Risk

#### C.4.1 Risk exposures

The Company has identified seven operational risk categories, as follows: internal fraud, external fraud, employment practices, damage to physical assets, business disruption and system failures, client/products/business practices and execution/delivery/process management. All operational risks identified by the Company are allocated to one of these categories.

Cyber risk is the risk of financial loss, disruption or reputational damage due to breaches of or attacks on the Society's information technology ("IT") systems. The risks from a cyber-attack have continued to increase in 2021 with hackers becoming increasingly more sophisticated. Any failure of the Society's IT systems could have a large impact on operations.

All material operational risk exposures are recorded in the Company's functional risk registers and are allocated a first line risk owner.

#### C.4.2 Risk measures

The Company monitors and assesses operational risk using the tools in the following table.

Measurement Tool	Measure	
Risk and Control Self-Assessment Process	Operational risk exposures are identified and assessed as part of a periodical cycle in place within the Company. This includes: a description of risks, the causes and consequences; a gross risk assessment of impact and likelihood; a list of 'prevention and detection' controls; and a 'net' assessment taking into consideration the effectiveness of the controls in place.	
Key Risk Indicators	The Company uses a wide range of KRIs to measure operational performance and areas of operational risk, which include service levels, business/IT incidents, financial crime, third-party performance and staff/resourcing.	
Loss Data	The Company collects and reports loss information and data around operational risk events that have crystallised or nearly crystallised (so-called 'near misses').	
Scenario Testing	Potential effect on the Company's solvency position and risk profile of alternative scenarios involving operational risk events or deteriorations in operational performance/controls.	



#### C.4.3 Risk concentration

Given the wide scope of operational risk, any concentration of operational risk is monitored and managed as per sections C.4.2 and C.4.4.

#### C.4.4 Risk management and mitigation

The table below sets out the specific risk management and risk mitigation approaches the Company uses in respect of its operational risk exposures.

Risk Mitigation	Description		
Risk Appetite	Statements covering the Company's approach towards operational risk.		
Individual controls	Individual controls applied to specific operational activities.		
Control Processes	Operational controls in place to manage operational risks.		
Control Policies	Record of the objectives, processes, responsibilities and reporting procedures in respect of the Company's operational controls.		
Management and Monitoring	Review of operational risk reporting and management information, including regular senior management and Board level review of the risk measures discussed in section C.4.2.		
Compliance Monitoring	Compliance reviews of operational processes.		
Root Cause Analysis	The Company investigates business incidents and upheld complaints, to ensure that the root causes have been identified and that mitigating actions are implemented.		
Assurance	Reviews of operational areas by Internal Audit.		
Economic Capital	Economic Capital held on the Company's regulatory balance sheet in respect of the Company's overall exposure to operational risk (derived using the Solvency II Standard Formula approach).		

Not all of the above risk management and mitigation approaches are used across all of the Company's individual operational risk exposures.

The Company does not anticipate making any material changes to its current approach to managing and mitigating its operational risk exposures.

## C.5 Liquidity Risk

## C.5.1 Risk exposure

Liquidity risk is not one of the Company's primary risk exposures on the basis that:

- The Company's in-payment annuities, which form the bulk of the non-linked contracts in force, may not be surrendered or transferred at the policyholder's option.
- There are other policies which do include the right to surrender or transfer the policy on demand, with the surrender or transfer value calculation method being determined by the policy conditions.



However, the majority of such contracts are unit-linked, where:

- The liabilities are matched by assets held in internal linked funds; and
- All linked assets are readily marketable, except for direct properties held in the property funds, where the Company has the right to defer payment of surrender or transfer values by up to six months.

#### C.5.2 Risk measures

In order to monitor and measure its exposure to liquidity risk, the Company measures the level of investment in cash and gilt holdings with reference to a defined liquidity buffer. The investment management reports from the Company's investment managers also include metrics that allow the Company to monitor adherence to the liquidity-related limits within each portfolio's investment guidelines.

#### C.5.3 Risk management and mitigation

The Company has an active liquidity risk management process. The table below sets out the specific risk management and risk mitigation approaches the Company uses in respect of its exposure to liquidity risk.

Risk Mitigation	Description	
Risk Appetite	Statements covering the Company's approach towards liquidity risk.	
Close Asset Liability Matching	The Company has a process in place to ensure that its asset holdings are appropriate to the nature, term, currency and liquidity of its liabilities.	
Investment Guidelines: Limit Structures	The Investment Guidelines for each portfolio set out limit structures for the assets permitted within the portfolio. Liquidity risk is an important factor in the choice of available assets.	
NPF (Non-MA) Cash Buffer	The NPF is required to hold in excess of £10m gilts and/or cash at all times.	

The Company does not anticipate making any material changes to its current approach to managing and mitigating its liquidity risk. In particular, it currently has no plans to either introduce any new or stop using any existing risk mitigation practices.

#### C.5.4 Expected Profit in Future Premiums

The Company calculates Expected Profit in Future Premiums ("EPIFPs") in accordance with the requirements of Article 260 of the Solvency II Delegated Acts. The regulation stipulates that the EPIFP shall be set equal to the difference between:

- 1. BEL calculated in accordance with Solvency II requirements; and
- 2. BEL calculated under the assumption that future premiums are not received for any reason other than the insured event having occurred (i.e. all policies are effectively treated as paid up at the valuation date).

EPIFP is calculated separately for different Homogenous Risk Groups ("HRGs"), provided that grouped contracts are also homogenous in relation to EPIFP. Within the same HRG, profit-making policies are used to offset loss-making policies.

As at 31 December 2021, the value of the Company's total EPIFP was £2.7m; the vast majority of which was from unit-linked business.



#### C.6 Stress and Scenario Testing Results

#### Stress testing

The Company stress tests its solvency balance sheet to calculate the SCR; ensuring that it has sufficient capital to withstand an extreme 1 in 200 year event measured over a 1 year time horizon. Stress testing is performed to establish the sensitivity of the Company's solvency to individual extreme events and quantifies each risk exposure in terms of capital impact, where capital impact is defined as the change in the value of the Company's asset holdings less the change in the value of its best estimate liabilities.

As described earlier, the largest risks that the Company is exposed to are lapse, equity, expense, spread, longevity and counterparty. The 1 in 200 year event assumptions and percentage change in Own Funds is set out in the following table.

## **Sensitivity Testing**

Risk	Calibration	% change in own funds
Equity	Instantaneous decrease in equity prices of 39% for Type 1 equities and 49% for Type 2 equities. These stresses are increased or decreased by up to 10% by the addition of a symmetric adjustment. This is based on the difference between the PRA equity index at the valuation date and its average value over the preceding 3 years.	(31.4%)
Lapse	The more onerous of: i) a permanent 50% increase in lapse rates, ii) a permanent 50% decrease in lapse rates; and iii) a mass lapse of 40%.	(21.5%)
Spread	An instantaneous relative decrease in the value of each bond varying between 0% and -70% (by credit quality and duration.	(16.0%)
Expense	Instantaneous permanent: i) increase of 10% to future expenses: and ii) increase of 1% point to the expense inflation rate.	(11.2%)
Longevity	Instantaneous permanent decrease of 20% in mortality rates	(8.2%)
Counterparty Default	The Counterparty default risk for reinsured business, bank deposits and other debtors is calculated using methodology specified by EIOPA.	(5.6%)

The Company also tests the sensitivity of the Company's solvency to adverse experience.

The following table summarises the results of the Company's sensitivity testing in respect of its material quantifiable risks. This testing was carried out as part of the Company's 2021 ORSA analysis. The results include the change in Own Funds and the change in the Company's SCR under each sensitivity, and are shown in respect of the forecast balance sheet as at 31 December 2021.

Risk Class	Risk	Calibration	% Change in Own Funds	% Change in SCR
Life Underwriting	Mass Lapse	40% Mass lapse	(18.5%)	(31.2%)
Interest rate (Down)		100 basis points ("bps") downward parallel shift to risk- free yield curve.	(2.3%)	0.6%
Market	Spread Up	Spread widening by 100bps	(10.0%)	(11.5%)
	Equity and Property	Instantaneous 40% decrease in equity and property prices.	(21.9%)	(24.2%)

Changes in lapse rates are not selective. Under Solvency II, changes in rates are applied only where the exercise of the option would result in an increase of technical provisions without the risk margin.



#### C.7 Any Other Material Information

## C.7.1 COVID-19

The continued effects of COVID-19 have the potential to impact the risks that the Company faces, although, as detailed below, it is expected that all the risks will continue to be managed and mitigated using the methods already used by the Company and as described above.

#### **Underwriting Risk**

The Company has limited direct exposure to an increase in mortality rates as a result of COVID-19. The Company's exposure to mortality risk is limited due to the low exposure to term assurance business and the use of reinsurance. Overall, an increase in mortality would not adversely affect the solvency or liquidity positions of the Company.

#### **Market Risk**

Any volatility in the external environment due to disruption of the economic recovery from COVID-19 could have an impact on the Company's solvency due to changes in interest rates and equity markets and as described above. Any falls in the value of equity markets will reduce the value of annual management charges and falls in interest rates increase the risk margin.

The outbreak of COVID-19 has had a significant impact in the UK over the last two years. In regards to the market volatility caused by COVID-19 it is important to note that as a closed book life company consolidator, we are not reliant on new business for generating the majority of our earnings. Most of our business is unit-linked, and we are not significantly exposed to volatility within the investment markets. We do have exposure to a small number of products with guarantees and have sought to manage these risks through reassurance agreements or close matching of assets to minimise the impact on our solvency. Therefore, we have continued to operate with a strong Balance Sheet throughout the last two years and with a Solvency Ratio comfortably well above required capital levels. We remain in a strong and resilient position and able to meet our capital requirements.

These changes are monitored regularly.

#### **Credit Risk**

The exposure to non-government bonds has increased in 2021 as c£180m of shareholder assets held in gilts at 31 December 2020 were transferred to Utmost Portfolio Management Limited (UPML) in January 2021 with a mandate to invest in corporate bonds as well as government bonds. The portfolio's credit risk will be managed and mitigated using the methods already used by the Company and as described above.

## **Operational Risk**

Since the announcement of the first national lockdown in March 2020, we have sought to ensure the safety of our staff and have operated over the last two years in line with Government guidance.

The operational risk impacts as a consequence of changes over the last two years have been managed through the Company's current processes.

#### **Liquidity Risk**

There has not been a material change to the liquidity risk that the Company faces due to COVID-19. However, this will be monitored in line with the approaches used by the Company to manage and mitigate liquidity risk and as described above.

#### C.7.2 Prudent Person Principle: investments

The Board and Investment Committee have delegated authority for investment decision making and management to external investment managers. Each investment manager operates subject to:



- Constraints set out in contractual Investment Management Agreements, which were developed with reference to the requirements of the Prudent Person Principle; and
- The oversight of the Company's ALCO.

The Company has a number of documents, for example, guidelines, policies, agreements and reports, which collectively support and reinforce compliance with the EIOPA guidelines in respect of the Prudent Person Principle. The key documents include:

- Investment Policy and Strategy;
- Investment Management Agreements with external investment managers;
- Asset Liability Matching reporting;
- MA portfolio documentation;
- Conflicts of Interest Policy; and
- Portfolio reporting produced for ALCO and the Board based upon information from the Company's external investment managers, fund administrators and external data providers.

The performance of and risk associated with Company's investments are subject to regular reporting to ALCO, the Risk and Compliance Committee, the Investment Committee and compliance/investment oversight reviews.



## D. VALUATION FOR SOLVENCY PURPOSES

## D.1 Assets Valuation Basis, Methods and Main Assumptions

The table below summarises, for each material asset class, the values according to Solvency II and on an UK GAAP basis as at 31 December 2021.

£ million  Assets	Statutory Reporting	Elimination of Intangible assets & group transactions	Reallocation Of Assets	Reversal of UK GAAP Technical provisions	Solvency II Technical Provisions	Solvency II
Goodwill	(100.9)	100.9				-
Intangible assets	119.9	(119.9)				-
Deferred Tax assets	0.3		(0.3)			-
Property, plant and equipment held for own use	3.5					3.5
Investments (other than assets held for index-linked and unit-linked contracts)	1,063.8	0.3	10.0			1,074.1
Equities	4.2					4.2
Bonds	950.0		10.0			960.0
Collective investment undertakings	86.8					86.8
Derivatives	17.9					17.9
Property (other than for own use)	-					-
Holdings in related	4.9	0.3				5.2
undertakings Deposits other than cash	-					-
equivalents Assets held for index-linked and unit-linked contracts	5,450.4					5,450.4
Loans and mortgages	1.4					1.4
Insurance and intermediaries receivable	0.5					0.5
Reinsurance recoverable	348.7			(348.7)	269.2	269.2
Reinsurance receivables	1.1					1.1
Receivables (trade, not insurance)	27.8		(10.0)			17.8
Cash	97.5					97.5
Total Assets	7,014.0	(18.7)	(0.3)	(348.7)	269.2	6,915.5



#### D.1.1 Investments, including held for unit-linked contracts

The Company's investments comprise government bonds, corporate bonds, collective investment undertakings, derivatives, deposits other than cash equivalents, other investments and investments held for unit-linked contracts.

#### a) Active market

Quoted price: Fair values of assets traded on active markets are determined using quoted market prices when available. An instrument is regarded as quoted in an active market if quoted prices are readily and regularly available from an exchange, dealer, broker, industry group, pricing service or regulatory agency, and those prices represent actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis between a willing seller and a willing buyer. For financial instruments traded in active markets, quotes received from external pricing services represent consensus prices, i.e. using similar models and inputs resulting in a very limited dispersion.

#### b) Active versus inactive markets: financial instruments

Equity instruments quoted on exchange traded markets and bonds actively traded on liquid markets are generally considered as being quoted in an active market when: quotes that represent consensus are regularly provided by external pricing services with limited dispersion; and prices are readily available. Liquidity for debt instruments is assessed using a multi criteria approach, including the number of quotes available, the place of issuance and the evolution of the widening of bid/ask spreads.

A financial instrument is regarded as not quoted in an active market:

- If there is little observation of transaction prices as an inherent characteristic of the instrument;
- When there is a significant decline in the volume and level of trading activity;
- In case of significant illiquidity; or
- If observable prices cannot be considered as representing fair value because of dislocated market conditions. Characteristics of inactive markets can therefore be very different in nature, inherent to the instrument or indicative of a change in the conditions prevailing in certain markets.
- c) Assets and liabilities not quoted in an active market

The fair values of assets and liabilities that are not traded in an active market are estimated:

- Using external and independent pricing services; or
- Using valuation techniques.

## d) No active market: use of external pricing services

External pricing services may be fund asset managers in the case of investments in funds. To the extent possible, the Company collects quotes from external pricing providers as inputs to measure fair values. Prices received may form tight clusters or dispersed quotes which may then lead to the use of valuation techniques. The dispersion of quotes received may be an indication of the large range of assumptions used by external pricing providers given the limited number of transactions to be observed or reflect the existence of distress transactions. In addition, given current market conditions since the financial crisis and the inactivity of some markets since then, many financial institutions ceased to be engaged in the origination or trading of structured assets deals and are as a result no longer in a position to deliver meaningful quotes for such assets.

#### e) No active market: use of valuation techniques

The objective of valuation techniques is to arrive at the price at which an orderly transaction would take place between market participants (a willing buyer and a willing seller) at the measurement date.



Valuation technique models include:

- Market approach: the consideration of recent prices and other relevant information generated by market transactions involving substantially similar assets or liabilities;
- Income approach: use of discounted cash flow analysis, option pricing models, and other
  present value techniques to convert future amounts to a single current (i.e. discounted)
  amount; and
- Cost approach: the consideration of amounts that would currently be required to construct or replace the service capacity of an asset. Valuation techniques are highly subjective in nature, and significant judgment is involved in establishing fair values. The use of valuation techniques and the related underlying assumptions could produce different estimates of fair value. Valuations are determined using generally accepted models (discounted cash flows, Black & Scholes models, etc.) based on quoted market prices for similar instruments or underlying factors (index, credit spread, etc.) whenever such directly observable data are available and valuations are adjusted for liquidity and credit risk.

Investments are classified into three tiers of fair value hierarchy based on the characteristics of inputs available in the marketplace. The following valuation hierarchy is used:

- Level 1: quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;
- Level 2: inputs other than quoted prices included with Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (that is, as prices) or indirectly (that is, derived from prices); and
- Level 3: inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (that is, unobservable inputs).

All assets are classified as Level 1 or Level 2 assets under the fair value, with the exception of the Level 3 assets detailed below.

Included in Level 2 assets are derivatives (swaptions) totalling 17.8m (2020: £21.9m), held on the Company's balance sheet to back its GAO liabilities. These are classed as Level 2 under the fair value hierarchy on the basis that their fair value measurements are derived from inputs other than quoted market prices that are observable. The swaptions are Over the Counter ("OTC") instruments, for which the fair value is provided to the Company by the counterparty

The other investments include one equity holding of £4.2m (2020: £4.5m) and unit-linked assets of £0.8m (2020: £0.8m) that are also classified as Level 3 under the fair value hierarchy on the basis there are no observable ('publicly available') prices.

The Level 3 equity asset (£4.2m) represents an equity holding in an investment company which holds a portfolio of onshore UK wind farms and wind finance companies. The investment company values the wind farms at fair value, using discounted cash flow valuation techniques, and the investment in finance entities at fair value, based on the fair value of loan notes and a share of net current assets.

The significant unobservable inputs into the fair value model for the wind farms include the discount rate, energy yield, power price and inflation rate. The below analysis is provided in order to illustrate the sensitivity of the fair value of investments to the energy yield, while all other variables remain constant.

Significant unobservable input	Range	Average	Change in input	Change in fair value of investment	ULP share	% change in fair value
Energy yield	20.71%- 35.98%	30.85%	P50 +10%	£6.8m	£0.5m	12.1%
			P50 – 10%	(£6.9m)	£0.5m	(12.2%)

The above sensitivity information is based on the latest available information from the investment company.



#### f) Valuation and Recognition of assets

There are no differences between the bases, methods and main assumptions used in the valuation for solvency purposes and those used for valuation in the Financial Statements of the Company except for:

- Goodwill and Intangibles generally valued at Nil
- Reinsurance recoveries which are treated as an asset.

Asset values in the Solvency II Balance Sheet are shown including accrued interest thereon, in accordance with EIOPA guidelines, whereas In the Financial Statements, the accrued interest is shown separately. This is a difference in presentation and not a valuation difference. There have been no changes to the recognition and valuation bases used, or to estimations, during the reporting period.

#### D.1.2 Credit ratings

Credit ratings are used for the calculation of the MA and in the relevant modules of the Standard Formula SCR calculations

For these purposes, credit ratings are obtained from External Credit Assessment Institutions ("ECAIs" or 'rating agency') nominated by the Company. Once a rating agency has been nominated, ratings provided by that agency are used consistently by the Company across calculations. If more than one rating is available from the nominated rating agencies, the Company uses the second-best rating.

The Company's current nominated rating agencies are Standard & Poor's, Moody's, and Fitch. The use of three rating agencies provides good coverage of the Company's corporate bond portfolio and limits the number of unrated bonds. The agency AM Best (which focuses on the insurance industry) is also considered for reinsurance counterparties only.

Any internally rated bonds are assessed by the Board in relation to the appropriateness of the ratings assigned to the bonds, and used in the calculation of the MA only. Any internally rated bonds are treated as unrated in the Standard Formula spread risk modules.

## D.1.3 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash in hand and demand deposits with banks aggregating £97.5m (2020: £91.9m), where they have maturity dates of three months or less from date of acquisition.

#### D.1.4 Intangible assets

The Present Value of Acquired In-force Business (PVIF) and Negative Goodwill balances relate to two acquisitions: Equitable Life Assurance Society (ELAS) in January 2020 and RMIS in April 2018.

The Directors have assessed the useful life of the PVIF and useful economic value of the Negative Goodwill arising on these acquisitions as 15 years, based on the period over which the value of the underlying business acquired is expected to exceed the value of the acquired identifiable net assets. The remaining amortisation period for ELAS business at 31 December 2021 is 13 years (2020: 14 years). The remaining amortisation period for the RMIS business is 11.25 years at 31 December 2021 (2020: 12.25 years) for these balances.

Under Solvency II, only intangible assets related to the business in force, that are separable and for which there is evidence of transactions for the same or similar assets, indicating that they are saleable in the market place, are recognised. As a result of Solvency II principles, goodwill and other intangible assets recognised under UK GAAP have no value in the Solvency II consolidated balance sheet.

Intangible assets comprising AVIF policies and negative goodwill, both arising from the transfer of acquired business from RMIS and Equitable Life, are fair valued at £19.0m (2020: £20.7m) for UK GAAP purposes and nil under Solvency II.



#### D.1.5 Property held for own use and other fixed assets

Under Solvency II, property, plant and equipment held for own use is recognised at fair value. Asset components are depreciated over their estimated useful lives under UK GAAP, and a reversible impairment is recognised if specific conditions are met. Property held for own use is stated at its revalued amount of £3.5m (2020: £3.4m). In July 2020, ULP relocated offices to Aylesbury. This building was advertised for sale at this point, with disposal expected to take place in 2022 at an agreed sales price of £3.6m.

## D.1.6 Prepayments and accrued income

On a UK GAAP basis, accrued income aggregating £10.0m (2020: £10.9m) is disclosed under 'Prepayments and accrued income'. Under Solvency II, accrued income is required to be included under the relevant investments category and has been reclassified under government bonds and corporate bonds.

#### D.1.7 Reinsurance recoverable and receivables

Reinsurance recoverable related to insurance Technical Provisions are calculated in accordance with Solvency II valuation principles. The amounts recoverable from reinsurers is based on gross provision, having due regard to collectability. As at 31 December 2021, the value of the Company's reinsurance recoverable based upon UK GAAP was a net receivable of £290.9m, disclosed as an asset of £348.7m (including linked) and liability of £57.8m in accordance with UK GAAP.

The resulting reinsurance cash flows are adjusted to allow for the risk of a reinsurer default. Standard & Poor's and AM Best are the current nominated rating agencies for this purpose.

Consistent with Solvency II requirements, the Company treats the value of these reinsurance arrangements as an asset, where the valuation is based on the projected liabilities associated with the reinsurance on a gross of reinsurance basis. On a Solvency II valuation basis there was a liability value of £269.2m (2020: £310.6m), which has been reported in the table shown in section D.1 as a negative asset to be consistent with the Solvency II reporting within Quantitative Reporting Template ("QRT") S.02.01.02. This comprises a negative asset of £67.1m (2020: £52.4m) representing the net position of the longevity swaps (see section D.1.8) offset by a recoverable amount of £336.4m (2020: £363.0m) in respect of Assurance products.

## D.1.8 Longevity swaps

The Company holds a number of longevity swaps for its annuity portfolios, where the payments to the reinsurance counterparties are made on the basis agreed at the outset of the reinsurance treaty. In return, payments based on the actual experience of the corresponding annuity portfolios are made by the reinsurers to the Company over the remaining lifetime of the annuities.

The value of these longevity swaps is calculated as the difference between the present value of the variable annuity payments received from the reinsurer and the present value of the fixed annuity payments (agreed at the treaty outset) made to the reinsurer, where discounting is at the basic risk-free interest rate term structure.

Allowance for reinsurer default is made to the cash flows using Solvency II probability of default for corporate bonds, with an allowance for recovery given default, as prescribed by EIOPA.



#### D.1.9 Receivables (trade, not insurance)

Cost is used as an approximation of fair value for current cash settled receivables and payables, having due regard to collectability. The amount of £27.8m (2020: £30.9m) on the UK GAAP basis includes cash collateral received under derivative arrangements from counterparty of £7.4m (2020: £11.3m).

#### D.1.10 Loans on policies

Amortised cost is used as an approximation of fair value for loans on policies for both UK GAAP and Solvency II, having due regard to collectability. Loans on policies had an aggregate value of £1.4m (2020: £1.5m).

#### D.1.11 Deferred taxation

Differences arise between Statutory Reporting and Solvency II deferred tax balances due to differences in underlying valuation principles for assets and liabilities. However, recognition and valuation principles of deferred taxes under both UK GAAP and Solvency II frameworks are similar.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities emerge from temporary differences with tax values of assets and liabilities, and, when applicable, from tax losses carry forwards.

Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will be available to offset the temporary differences, taking into account the existence of tax groups and any legal or regulatory requirements on the limits (in terms of amounts or timing) related to the carry forward of unused tax losses or the carry forward of unused tax credits.

Projections made for future taxable profits are broadly consistent with assumptions used for other projected cash flows. The recoverability of deferred tax assets recognised in previous periods is reassessed at each closing period.

The deferred tax assets and liabilities are netted off if the counterparty is the same tax authority and there is an ability to settle net.

#### D.1.12 Insurance and intermediary receivables

As at 31 December 2021, insurance receivables for premiums and recovery of pension relief at source were valued at £0.5m (2020: £0.6m) for UK GAAP and Solvency II purposes.



#### D.2 Liabilities

Liabilities	Solvency II	Statutory Reporting
Technical Provisions – life (excluding index-linked and unit-linked)	1,117.5	1,142.7
Best Estimate	1,062.9	N/A
Risk Margin	54.6	N/A
Technical Provisions – index-linked and unit-linked	5,398.3	5,452.1
Technical Provisions calculated as a whole	5,446.9	0.0
Best Estimate	-53.1	0.0
Risk Margin	4.6	0.0
Other Technical Provisions – Reinsurance	0.0	57.8
Provisions other than Technical Provisions	2.0	2.0
Pension benefit obligations	1.4	1.4
Deposits from reinsurers	4.6	4.6
Deferred tax liabilities	29.7	7.5
Insurance and intermediaries payables	36.9	36.9
Reinsurance payables	0.6	0.6
Payables (trade, not insurance)	21.6	21.6
Any other liabilities, not elsewhere shown	0.0	67.3
Total liabilities	6,612.6	6,794.5
Excess of assets over liabilities	302.9	219.5

## D.2.1 Material lines of business

Under Solvency II, Technical Provisions are split amongst Life With-Profits Participation, Linked Life and Other Life Insurance.

Technical Provisions are measured using a twofold 'building block' approach:

- BEL; and
- Risk Margin for non-hedgeable risks, which is added to the BEL. The valuation of Technical Provisions requires in-depth analysis of the underlying obligations, collection of qualitative and quantitative information, projection tools and models, and expert judgement in a number of areas.



The table below shows the segmentation of the Utmost business into lines of business for Solvency II purposes.

Category	Description
Life With-Profits Participation	All products falling within this category are within one of the WPSFs.  Some business within the WPSFs falls within the Other Life Insurance category.
Linked Life	This includes unit-linked business, but excludes index-linked annuities and index-linked funeral plan business, which increase in line with inflation indices.
Other Life Insurance	This includes all other business, including annuities and funeral plan business.

The table below sets out the Technical Provisions as at 31 December 2021 for each of the Company's sub-funds. Currently the Transitional Measure on Technical Provisions ("TMTP") are set to zero.

ULP - Technical Provisions £m						
Sub-Fund	BEL	Risk Margin	Technical Provision			
Non-Profit Fund	6,228.9	58.5	6,287.4			
NPF	5,773.7	29.1	5,802.8			
MA1	389.1	25.2	414.3			
MA2	66.1	4.3	70.3			
WPSF1	27.9	0.1	28.0			
WPSF2	11.3	0.0	11.4			
WPSF4	89.7	0.2	89.9			
WPSF6	98.9	0.3	99.1			
Total Company	6,456.7	59.1	6,515.8			

A summary by line of business is provided below.

ULP - Technical Provisions £m						
Sub-Fund BEL Risk Margin Technical Prov						
Life With-Profits Participation	216.5	0.6	217.1			
Linked Life	5,393.8	4.6	5,398.3			
Other Life Insurance	846.4	54.0	900.4			
Total Company	6,456.7	59.1	6,515.8			

Other Life Insurance includes NPF policies in both non-profit and WPSFs.

The Risk Margin is calculated at a sub-fund level.

## **Comparison with Financial Statements**

The bases, methods and assumptions used for the Solvency II regulatory valuation of the Company's Technical Provisions uses BEL with a Risk Margin, whereas valuation for financial reporting under UK GAAP uses a more prudent basis. Other sources of differences between the two bases include differences due to an allowance for contract boundaries within the calculation of the BEL and elimination of negative non-unit reserves on a UK GAAP basis.



Whilst there is prudence throughout the UK GAAP statutory basis, explicit margins of prudence exist, as follows:

- An explicit prudence margin of 15% on non-investment related expenses.
- Assurance and annuities in payment mortality assumptions have a margin of 10%. There is further
  prudence in the long-term improvement rates for annuities in-payment (0.25% pay increase in
  the rate of improvement);
- No reduction is made for persistency; and
- The assumption for the take-up of GAOs contains additional prudence in that the take-up rate increases linearly to 95% over 20 years.

#### D.2.2 Valuation methodology

Under Solvency II, the investment contract benefits and insurance contract liabilities required by UK GAAP are replaced by an assessment of the Technical Provisions, comprising BEL and the Risk Margin. The table below shows a comparison between the two reporting metrics. The Solvency II values are after allowance for TMTPs which are not subject to audit.

		Technical Provisions Differences (£m)				
Balance Sheet Components	Statutory Accounts FRS102	Re- allocation	Recognition of Discretionary Elements	Accounting Policy Differences	Solvency II Value	
Unit-linked technical provisions						
BEL	5,452.0	(62.1)	0.0	3.9	5,393.8	
Risk Margin	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.6	4.6	
Life and Health technical provisions						
BEL	1,142.7	62.1	78.1	-220.0	1,062.9	
Risk Margin	0.0	0.0	0.0	54.6	54.6	
Gross Technical Provisions	6,594.8	0.0	78.1	(157.0)	6,515.8	
Reinsurance						
BEL	(290.9)	0.0	0.0	21.7	(269.2)	
Net Technical Provisions	6,303.9	0.0	78.1	(135.3)	6,246.6	

The reallocation column shows differences in the categorisation of liabilities between the UK GAAP statutory accounts and Solvency II. The values shown are based on the basis used for the UK GAAP statutory accounts. The accounting policy differences reflect the differences between the two bases due to moving to the Solvency II basis and methodology. The reassessment of participations shows the allowance for future discretionary benefits allowed for within the calculation of the BEL.

#### Level of uncertainty in the technical provisions

The projection of the monthly cash flows used in the assessment of the Technical Provisions and Risk Margin requires management to make assumptions about future demographic and economic experience. The assumptions are based on historical experience, expected future experience, and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The assumptions are reviewed on a regular basis. Uncertainty arises from actual future experience being different from that assumed.

For the Company, the key areas of uncertainty relate to the items listed below.



- Life underwriting risk, which includes mortality experience, longevity experience, and policyholder behaviour in respect of exercising guarantees and options;
- Market conditions, including change in credit spreads, long-term interest rates and equities; and
- Future expenses incurred in servicing insurance obligations, including administrative, investment and claims management expenses plus provision for related overheads.

#### Provision for future expenses: assumptions

The expenses contain a degree of uncertainty in relation to the future development of the business. The assumptions used to determine the Solvency II Technical Provisions and SCR have been set based upon the business plan for Utmost without taking into account any cost benefits that might arise from future acquisitions. In doing so, the Board has set the expense assumptions taking into consideration the impact on expenses of adopting alternative scenarios and strategies (including managing the diseconomies that arise as the business runs off).

#### **Best estimate liabilities**

The BEL correspond to the probability-weighted average of future cash flows, including policyholders' benefit payments, expenses, taxes, premiums related to existing insurance and reinsurance contracts, taking into account the time value of money (i.e. by discounting these future cash flows to present value). The calculation of the BEL is based upon up-to-date reliable information and realistic assumptions. The cash flow projection model used in the calculation includes all the cash in- and out-flows required to settle the insurance and reinsurance obligations over their lifetime. The BEL is recognised on a gross of reinsurance basis, without deduction of amounts recoverable from reinsurance contracts

Appendix A shows the material assumptions used to calculate the BEL for the Company as at 31 December 2021. In particular, it covers the assumptions used for interest rates, inflation, mortality, expenses and option take-up rates.

The model discounts these monthly cash flows using the Solvency II basic risk-free term structure of interest rates applying at the valuation date, prescribed by PRA, to calculate the BEL. For the MA portfolios (described in section D.2.3), the corresponding MA is added to the basic risk-free curve at all durations. The same model is used to project the reinsurance premiums and claim cash flows, which are then discounted in the same way to determine the value of the reinsurance asset. The MA is not applied when discounting the reinsurance cash flows associated with this business

### **Expenses**

Expenses include administrative, investment management, claims management and acquisition expenses which relate to recognised insurance and reinsurance obligations. The assumptions underlying expense projections are consistent with the Company strategy, taking into account future new business and any change in expenses as decided by management. The cash flow projection model allocates the total annual (business-as-usual) budgeted expenses across the policies to which they relate. Investment management charges are based on the level of assets backing Technical Provisions, and unit costs are based on the business-as-usual budget (net of charges received from the with-profits sub-funds) and the number of policies in force at the valuation date.

In setting the expense assumptions, the Company has used its view on the expected future costs. The sensitivity of the Company to changes in expenses can be seen in the section C.6.

## Future discretionary benefits ("FDBs")

In line with Solvency II requirements, the BEL for the Company's with-profits business contains an allowance for FDBs: the payment of bonuses that are expected to be declared in the future. FDBs consists of future reversionary bonuses, terminal bonuses and other non-guaranteed bonuses.



A prospective bonus reserve valuation ("BRV") approach is used for all with-profits sub-funds. An iterative surplus minimisation process is initially carried out, which searches for a terminal bonus rate that, when applied, results in a BRV that matches the (net of current liabilities) asset value for each fund (subject to a tolerance). For these funds, the FDB is calculated to be the value of the assets less the value of the guaranteed liabilities.

#### **Manual reserves**

The Company determines the value of certain liabilities (referred to as 'manual reserves') outside of its policy level cash flow projection model. The reserves in respect of each manual reserve are determined as follows:

- The cash flows in respect of the manual reserve are imported into the model so that they can be included in the final BEL calculation as appropriate; or
- an adjustment for the manual reserve is added to the BEL outside of the liability cashflow model.

#### Allowance for deferred tax asset

The approach is a simplification of the underlying tax calculation because the amount is immaterial and assumes that full tax relief is available on all future expenses.

#### **Risk Margin**

The Risk Margin is defined as the cost of non-hedgeable risk, i.e. a margin in addition to the expected present value of liability cash flows required to manage the business on an ongoing basis. It is deemed to be the present value of the cost of future economic capital requirements for non-hedgeable risks. A best estimate assumption is defined as one where there is the same probability that the actual experience develops more or less favourably than the assumption. It is neither a prudent nor an optimistic assumption. It is set at a level that is neither deliberately overstated nor deliberately understated.

In line with Solvency II requirements, the Company calculates the Risk Margin by determining the expected cost of providing capital to cover the non-hedgeable part of its SCR over the remaining lifetime of the in-force business.

The Company assumes that all market risks are hedgeable and therefore excludes them from the SCR used in the Risk Margin calculation. Underwriting, operational and counterparty default risks are considered non-hedgeable.

The Solvency II requirements define a hierarchy of simplifications which may be used to determine the Risk Margin that remove the need to perform a full projection of the SCR (excluding hedgeable market risk) at each future time period.

Rather than performing a full projection of the SCR at each future time period, the Company uses a simplified approach to determine the Risk Margin for all risks apart from longevity. Under the simplified methodology, each component of the Basic Solvency Capital Rate ("BSCR") (excluding market risk) is projected by assuming that the initial value runs off in line with an appropriate component of the BEL. For the longevity risk sub-module, instead of using a component of the BEL to estimate future risk capital, a full projection of the longevity risk capital is carried out.

This approach is consistent with Method 1 of the Hierarchy of Simplifications outlined in the Solvency II Guidelines.

To arrive at the Risk Margin, the projected non-hedgeable SCRs at each future time-step are multiplied by a 6% cost of capital rate and discounted using the Solvency II basic risk-free term structure of interest rates

Consistent with Solvency II rules, the Company's Risk Margin is calculated without taking credit for the effects of the MAs in NPF1 and NPF2.



## D.2.3 Matching Adjustment

The following table summarises the Company's two MA portfolios as at 31 December 2021.

MA Portfolio Liabilities at 31 December 2021							
Contract Type  Contracts  BEL (with MA)  (no MA)							
Annuities (NPF MA1)	25,667	389.1	421.4				
Funeral Plan (NPF MA2)	12,100	66.1	66.4				
Total	37,767	455.2	487.8				

In each of the MA portfolios, the liabilities and the assets held to match those liabilities satisfy the specific requirements that must be met in order to apply the MA.

For each MA portfolio, the corresponding MA is added to the basic risk-free term structure of interest rates at all durations. The adjusted interest rate curve is then used to discount the BEL cash flows projected to emerge in that portfolio.

No allowance for the MA is made in the calculation of the Risk Margin in respect of the MA portfolios, and the MA is not applied when discounting the reinsurance cash flows associated with this business.

The table below sets out the MA used in the 31 December 2021 valuation in respect of each of the two MA portfolios.

Matching Adjustment Rates					
Component	Description	NPF MA1	NPF MA2		
Rate 1	Single annual discount rate that equates the discounted value of the expected liability cash flows to the market value of the assets held to match those cash flows.	2.29%	0.92%		
Rate 2	Single annual discount rate that equates the discounted value of the expected liability cash flows to the BEL calculated using the basic risk-free interest rate term structure with no adjustments.	0.92%	0.88%		
Fundamental Spread	A component of credit spreads that reflects the cost of downgrades and a long-term average spread underpin. It varies by: currency, asset class, credit rating and duration	0.46%	0.00%		
Matching Adjust	ment	0.91%	0.04%		

The following table summarises the assets held in the two NPF MA1 and NPF MA2 portfolios as at 31 December 2021.

Assets in the MA portfolios (£m)					
Acced Type	Value at 31 December 2021 (£m)				
Asset Type	NPF MA1	NPF MA2			
Corporate bonds	400.1	3.1			
Government bonds	87.9	68.9			
Cash, Deposits and Other	35.3	1.5			
Total	523.2	73.5			



The table below shows the impact on the Company's Solvency II Pillar 1 balance sheet as at 31 December 2021 of zeroing the MA.

5	Value as at 31 December 2021 (£m)				
Balance Sheet Components	With MA	Without MA	Impact of MA		
Assets	6,818.7	6,818.7	0.0		
Technical Provisions	(6,515.8)	(6,548.4)	32.6		
Own Funds	302.9	270.3	32.6		
RFF Restrictions	(12.2)	0.0	(12.2)		
Eligible Own Funds	290.7	270.3	20.4		
Solvency Capital Requirements	157.6	167.7	(10.1)		
Solvency Capital Ratio (%)	184%	161%	23%		

The benefit of the MA methodology is largely due to the Company's significant exposure to annuities in payment. The combined value of the BEL in the two MA portfolios is £455m. Due to the long-term nature of these liabilities, an uplift in the discount rate has a material impact on the BEL, reducing them by £33m.

## D.2.4 Volatility Adjustment

As at 31 December 2021, the Company did not make use of the Volatility Adjustment for the purpose of determining its Technical Provisions.

#### D.2.5 Transitional measures (Unaudited)

#### Transitional risk-free interest rate term: structure

As at 31 December 2021, the Company did not apply the transitional risk-free interest rate term structure in the discounting of best estimate cash flows when calculating its Technical Provisions.

### TMTPs (also referred to as the Transitional Deduction ["TD"])

The Transitional Measure on Technical Provisions ("TMTP") are currently set to zero.

#### D.3 Other Liabilities

The following section references the 'current liabilities, other than Technical Provisions' table in section D.2.

## D.3.1 Insurance and intermediaries payables

This balance of £36.9m (2020: £38.2m) comprises claims outstanding relating to insurance and participating investment contracts. Death claims, maturities, annuity payments due and surrenders are recognised when due or at the earlier of the date when paid or when policy ceases to be included in the Technical Provisions (including for linked contracts).

The Company makes a provision for outstanding claims based on a realistic assessment of the likelihood of payment, which varies in line with the age of the debt and the Company's ability to make contact with the policyholder.

## D.3.2 Payables (trade, not insurance) and other liabilities

These payables of £21.6m (2020: £45.8m) comprise amounts which fall due within 12 months from the balance sheet date and are considered to be held at fair value. These payables are due to employees,



suppliers, public entities and reinsurers, including £7.4m (2020: £11.3m) liability for collateral creditor held under derivative arrangements with a counterparty.

#### D.3.3 Deposits from reinsurers

These comprise the liability to Hannover Re of £4.6m (2020: £5.5m) under the deposit back arrangement and is valued in accordance with the agreement on a payable basis and considered as a fair approximation of the fair value under Solvency II. The Company holds an equivalent amount of assets as collateral received, which are included under Government Bonds, Corporate Bonds and Cash.

#### D.3.4 Pension Scheme benefit obligations

As part of the transfer of business from RMIS on 1 April 2018, the Company entered into a Flexible Apportionment Arrangement, whereby it was admitted as the principal employer to the defined benefit pension scheme ("the Scheme") and all RMIS Scheme liabilities were apportioned to the Company.

The Scheme has been closed to future accrual since June 2010.

The value of the Defined Benefit ("DB") pension scheme is recognised on the liability side of the Solvency II balance sheet and is calculated as the difference between:

• the market value of assets backing the liabilities of the DB pension liabilities; and the DB pension liabilities calculated under the International Accounting Standard 19 ("IAS 19"), including International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee 14 ("IFRIC 14").

The valuation allows for the full cost of pensions equalisations (being the financial impact on the Reliance Pension Scheme of benefits being provided on and from 17 May 1990 with the same normal retirement age of 60 for male and female members and on and from 30 March 1995 with the same normal retirement age of 65 for male and female members). The asset valuation is carried out by Schroder's and the value of the DB pension liabilities is calculated by Willis Tower Watson, an employee benefits consultancy.

As at 31 December 2021, the DB pension scheme was in deficit valued at £1.4m (2020: £2.3m), applicable for both UK GAAP and Solvency II purposes, as follows:

Pension Scheme assets £39.8m

Pension Scheme liabilities (£40.1m)

Onerous Liability (effect of asset ceiling) (£1.1m)Deficit (£1.4m)

#### D.3.5 Accruals and deferred Income

Amounts of £1.5m (2020: £1.5m) relate to pensions mis-selling accrual reflected in both UK GAAP and Solvency II.

## D.3.6 Reinsurance payables

As at 31 December 2021, the value of the Company's reinsurance payables was £0.6m (2020: £0.5m), for both UK GAAP and Solvency II reporting.

## D.3.7 Provisions other than Technical Provisions

Provisions other than technical provisions are £2.0m (2020: £4.6m) for both UK GAAP and Solvency II reporting. A deferred tax liability, with a balance at 31 December 2021 of £7.5m (2020: £3.6m) has been disclosed separately.



#### D.3.8 Deferred taxation Liability

Differences arise between UK GAAP and Solvency II deferred tax balances due to differences in underlying valuation principles for assets and liabilities. However, recognition and valuation principles of deferred taxes under both UK GAAP and Solvency II frameworks are similar.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities emerge from temporary differences with tax values of assets and liabilities, and, when applicable, from tax losses carry forwards.

The deferred tax liability is calculated by reference to temporary difference between the values ascribed to assets and liabilities for UK GAAP and the value ascribed to those assets and liabilities under Solvency II. The deferred tax liabilities under Solvency II include additional liabilities recognised in respect of positive valuation differences between the Solvency II balance sheet and the UK GAAP statutory accounts.

Projections made for future taxable profits are broadly consistent with assumptions used for other projected cash flows. The recoverability of deferred tax assets recognised in previous periods is reassessed at each closing period.

The deferred tax assets and liabilities are netted off if the counterparty is the same tax authority and there is an ability to settle net.

#### D.3.9 Valuation and Recognition of liabilities

The Company has no material liabilities arising as a result of leasing arrangements.

There are also no significant uncertainties regarding the timing or amounts of other liabilities.

There have been no changes made to the recognition and valuations bases, or estimates used, of other liabilities during the reporting period.

There are no differences between the bases, methods and main assumptions used in the valuation for solvency purposes and those used for valuation in the Financial Statements. Aside from assumptions used for valuation models, as noted above, there are no significant assumptions or uncertainties regarding the valuation of assets.

### D.4 Alternative Methods for Valuation

## D.4.1 Participation in related undertakings

ULP acquired the business of ELAS on 1 January 2020. The majority of the business of ELAS transferred to ULP under Part VII of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 ("FSMA"). A small amount of Euro denominated Irish and German business remains in ELAS, which became a wholly owned subsidiary of ULP on 1 January 2020. The ELAS subsidiary is treated as a strategic participation.

## D.4.2 Loans on policies and outstanding premiums

Loans on policies and outstanding premiums are valued for UK GAAP at amortised cost of £1.4m (2020: £1.5m), and this is not considered to be materially different to their fair value for Solvency II purposes.

#### D.5 Any Other Information

The COVID-19 outbreak has not had a material impact on liabilities. The Company remains well above its Solvency II Capital Coverage Targets.



#### E. CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

#### E.1 Own Funds

Capital is determined and monitored for the Company on the regulatory basis, as stipulated in the PRA Rulebook. This primarily focused upon the Total Available Own Funds ("TAOF") and the SCR") of the Company. The Solvency Monitoring Tool was used to produce an estimation of the balance sheet on a monthly basis and to determine the sensitivity of the roll-forward position to market conditions through the year, ensuring that the capital requirements are met adequately. The Company's capital position was formally reviewed and approved on a quarterly basis by delegated authority from the Board to the management.

The TAOF for year end 31 December 2021 were £290.7m. The Company had an SCR of £157.6m at year end 2021, with a Solvency Coverage Ratio of 184%. Comparable figures for year end 31 December 2020 were a TOAF of £306.3m, an SCR of £173.9m and a Solvency Coverage Ratio of 176%.

The Capital Management Framework and risk appetite set out the Company's approach for managing Own Funds. The Company aims to maintain an appropriate buffer of capital resources over the regulatory capital requirements. The Company projects over the five-year business planning period. Solvency and liquidity levels are monitored on a regular basis, and are used to inform the dividend capacity. There have been no material changes over the reporting period to the management of Own Funds.

The Company is required to hold capital at a level of financial resources that do not fall below a minimum as determined in accordance with the PRA Regulations. For the purposes of determining its regulatory capital, the Company uses the Solvency II Standard Formula without adjustment. The appropriateness of the Standard Formula approach has been reviewed by management and the Actuarial function and approved by the Board. The capital of the Company comprises ordinary shares and retained earnings.

There were no changes to the capital structure of ULP during 2021.

#### **E.1.1** Description of Own Funds

The Company's Own Funds are allocated to tiers, as set out in the Solvency II regulations.

Own Funds (£m)	Tier	31 December 2021	31 December 2020
Paid in ordinary share capital	1	100.0	100.0
Surplus funds	1	0.6	0.8
Reconciliation reserve	1	190.1	205.6
Total Available Restricted Own Funds		290.7	306.3
Eligible Own Funds to meet the SCR / MCR		290.7	306.3

The change in surplus funds and reconciliation reserves is set out in more detail in sections E.1.3 and E.1.4.

#### Ordinary share capital

The Company's issued and fully paid ordinary share capital is treated as Tier 1 unrestricted Own Funds.



#### With-profits funds - Surplus Funds

The PRA has set out a mandatory calculation of Surplus Funds for UK Solvency II firms to ensure consistency across the industry<sup>1</sup>. For these funds, Surplus Funds should be calculated as the difference between the assets in a with-profits fund (except those meeting liabilities in respect of non-profit insurance) and the value of with-profit liabilities (including the value of any other liabilities properly attributable to that with-profits fund).

With-profits Surplus Funds satisfy the characteristics of Tier 1 because they will only be distributed to policyholders in the future if it is appropriate to do so and are loss-absorbent because future distributions can be reduced if the amount of accumulated profits reduces due to future losses.

The PRA has specified that the default basis for the calculation of the value of with-profit liabilities (for the purposes of Surplus Funds) is a retrospective (i.e. asset share) approach. Where a retrospective approach is impracticable or would not lead to a fair value of the liabilities, a prospective approach can be used.

Due to the treatment of future discretionary benefits ("FDB") in the Company's with-profits funds, the PRA calculation of Surplus Funds results in a value of zero.

#### Subordinate liabilities

On 16 December 2019, the Company drew down a new £60m term loan facility and repaid the £35m loan from its parent undertaking, Utmost Holdings. The loan, which was due to mature on 16 December 2030, qualified as Tier 2 capital under Solvency II. Interest was paid at the rate of 7% pa and was payable biannually. This loan was repaid to the parent company in November 2020, following the injection of £60m Tier 1 Ordinary Share Capital from the Company's parent company, ULPH. ULP now has no subordinate liabilities.

#### **E.1.2** Reconciliation reserve

The reconciliation reserve is a balancing item which ensures that the total Own Funds equal the excess of assets which are available to absorb unexpected losses over liabilities. This reserve is used to reflect the restrictions on the availability of Own Funds from ring-fencing (see below). It also includes any 'foreseeable' distributions or charges that would reduce the value of the Own Funds available to absorb losses.

## **E.1.3** Eligibility restrictions of Own Funds

The following table details the restrictions on the Own Funds.

Own Funds (£m)	31-Dec-21	31-Dec-20
With-Profits Surplus	0.0	0.0
Matching adjustment portfolio Own Funds in excess of SCR	-12.2	0.0
Tier II capital restriction	0.0	0.0
Eligibility restriction	-12.2	0.0

The Company's WPSFs (WPSF1, 2, 4, and 6) and MA portfolios (NPF1 MA and NPF2 MA) are all treated as ring-fenced for Pillar 1 valuation purposes. This means that Own Funds are restricted by the amount of any surplus assets in excess of the notional SCR that exists within each of these RFFs.

The value of eligibility restrictions at 31 December 2021 was £12.2m. Further details on the components of the capital requirements and potential volatility can be found in section E.2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/-/media/boe/files/prudential-regulation/supervisory-statement/2015/ss1315



## E.1.4 Reconciliation between UK GAAP equity and Solvency II Own Funds

The differences between the Company's UK GAAP and Solvency II valuations are quantified and explained within section D. The following tables summarise those movements and determine the difference in the Company's UK GAAP equity and Solvency II Own Funds and the sources of those differences.

SII Pillar 1 Solvency (£ millions)	2021	2020	Change
UK GAAP Equity	219	211	9
Own Funds (Unrestricted)	303	306	(3)

SII Pillar 1 Solvency (£ millions)	UK GAAP Statutory	Solvency II	Change		
Valuation of Assets	7,014	6,915	98		
Valuation of Technical Provisions	(6,595)	(6,516)	(79)		
Subordinated Loan	0 0		0		
Funds for future appropriations	(67)	0	(67)		
Valuation of other liabilities	(132)	(97)	(35)		
Total Own Funds (unrestricted)	219	303	(83)		
Ring-fenced Fund Restrictions	0	(12)	12		
Loan Restriction	0	0	0		
Own Funds	219	291	(71)		

## E.2 Solvency Capital Requirement and Minimum Capital Requirement

#### E.2.1 SCR calculation and results

The Company uses the Standard Formula approach to calculate its SCR. The appropriateness of the Standard Formula approach with respect to the Company's risk profile has been reviewed by the Risk Management and Actuarial functions and approved by the Board.

The SCR amount for the Company at 31 December 2021 has been calculated to be £157.6m.

000 11 11	SCR (£m)							
SCR Module	31 December 2021	31 December 2020						
Life Underwriting	106.6	124.4						
Market	148.0	139.7						
Counterparty Default	17.0	16.9						
Diversification	-58.7	-60.2						
Basic SCR	212.8	220.8						
Operational SCR	9.7	10.7						
Loss Absorbing Capacity	-65.0	-57.6						
Total SCR	157.6	173.9						

The loss-absorbing capacity of Technical Provisions of £65.0m (as shown in S.25.01) arises from the Company's WPSFs, and reflects the ability of the Company to apply management actions in these subfunds under stress conditions. It also reflects the Company's loss absorbing capacity of deferred tax liability.



#### E.2.2 Simplifications used in the calculation of the SCR

For the lapse risk sub-module, the Company applies the Standard Formula stresses to persistency rates, paid-up rates and take-up rates on GAOs. The most onerous stress (out of the permanent increase and decrease to rates, and a mass lapse) is assessed at a mixture of product code level and individual policy level, rather than solely at an individual policy level for non-linked business. The Company does not consider that this simplification results in a material misstatement of the lapse risk capital.

To calculate counterparty default risk capital, the Company uses a simplification to determine the risk-mitigating effect of reinsurance, whereby the effect of removing reinsurance contracts at treaty level is considered rather than counterparty. The resulting risk mitigation effect is spread across the reinsurance counterparties in line with the base value of the reinsurance asset. The Company does not consider that this simplification will have a material impact on the level of counterparty default risk capital held.

The Company does not use Company-specific parameters, pursuant to Article 104(7) of Directive 2009/138/EC.

#### E.2.3 MCR calculation and results

The Company's MCR is calculated in line with the linear formula set out in the Solvency II Regulations.

The MCR amount for the Company as at 31 December 2021 has been calculated to be £51.5m. The table below sets out the components of the MCR. The amounts include reinsurance recoverable and liabilities.

0	Value (£m)							
Components	31 December 2021	31 December 2020						
Technical Provisions (Life, 1)	145.1	163.0						
Technical Provisions (Life, 2)	77.8	78.9						
Technical Provisions (Life, 3)	5,388.6	5,405.5						
Technical Provisions (Life, 4)	575.9	667.1						
Capital at Risk	528.7	240.3						
SCR	157.6	173.9						
MCR	51.5	53.9						

## E.3 Use of the Duration-based Equity Sub-module in the Calculation of the Solvency Capital Requirement

The Company did not make use of the duration-based equity sub-module in the calculation of the SCR.

## E.4 Differences between the Standard Formula and any Internal Model used

An internal model is not used by the Company.

## E.5 Non-compliance with the Minimum Capital Requirement and Non-compliance with the Solvency Capital Requirement

The SCR and the MCR were complied with at all times during the reporting period. There is no expectation of any future non-compliance by the Company.



## E.6 Any Other Information

The Company continues to monitor the market movements relating to COVID-19 and their impact on the Company. The long term impacts on financial markets and companies are expected to remain for some time.

The Company entered 2022 with a strong Balance Sheet and with a Solvency II coverage ratio of 184% as outlined in E.1 and continues to do so in 2022.



#### **APPENDIX A: VALUATION BASIS**

Details of assumptions which are significant for the Company for Solvency II reporting are provided below.

#### **INTEREST RATE TERM STRUCTURE**

The Company uses the unadjusted PRA term structure for the UK for all lines of business. For business which is in its Matching Adjustment MA portfolios, the PRA curve is uplifted by the appropriate MA rate, as shown in section D.2.3. The MA portfolio are:

- The non-profit annuities in-payment in Non-Profit Fund 1 ("MA1"); and
- The funeral plan business in Non-Profit Fund 2 ("MA2").

#### **INFLATION**

Inflation is a significant assumption for the Company because it impacts the value of the projected expenses as well as benefits which are linked to inflation, including inflation-linked annuities in-payment and funeral plans. Consistent with year 2020, the inflation assumption used by the Company at year end 2021 is an inflation curve (sourced from Bank of England yield curve data) across all business except for the MA portfolios. For the MA portfolios, to accommodate limitations in Goldman Sachs Asset Management's models this was implemented in practice by applying a fixed rate derived from the same inflation curve taking account of the Solvency II liabilities run off profile.

Appropriate allowance is also made to reflect the difference between earnings and price inflation.

#### **MORTALITY**

#### **Assurances**

For contracts where differential rates were offered to smokers and non-smokers, the appropriate versions of the standard tables have been used.

Different percentages of standard tables, EL15-16, ELT16, AC00 and TC00 ranging from 50% to 129% (50% to 129% at yearend 2020) are used depending upon the risk group.

Industrial Branch conventional non-profit contracts are adjusted to allow for 'gone-aways'. These arise where the policyholder is no longer aware of the policy's existence (and may have already died) and where it is not practical to trace the policyholder (or next-of-kin). All Industrial Branch conventional contracts where the policyholder is aged over 100 are excluded. Reduction factors are applied to the remaining non-profit contracts.

#### **Annuities**

For all annuities, the gender-specific PL08 or PA09 tables are used for males and females.

Different percentages of standard tables, PL08 and PA08 ranging from 80% to 260% (80% to 190% at year-end 2020), are used depending upon the risk group.

The Company has adopted the CMI 2020 mortality improvement factors published by the Institute of Actuaries in 2021 for the valuation of annuity liabilities at year end 2021.

#### **EXPENSES**

The table below shows the unit cost assumptions. These unit costs are weighted depending on individual products, based on the amount of resources required to administer the particular products.

Unit Cost Assumptions £	31 December 2021	31 December 2020
Renewal Expenses - Premium Paying	55.61	55.25
Renewal Expenses - Paid Up	55.61	46.96
Claim Expenses	0.00	0.00



The expenses for WPSF1, WPSF4 and WPSF6 are governed by the Scheme of Arrangement, as described in the Company's PPFM.

## **OPTIONS AND GUARANTEES**

In NPF and WPSF6 there are a number of unit-linked and with-profits pension contracts, respectively, where the unit fund may be converted to an annuity on guaranteed terms. The Company uses policyholder fund value dependent take-up rates, which vary between 20% and 50% (year end 2020: 20% and 50%).

## LAPSE ASSUMPTIONS

The Company's lapse assumptions are set using historic experience, with the lapse rates rounded to the nearest 0.1%. The rates vary by product, ranging from 0% to 7.5% (year end 2020: 0% to 7.5%).



## **APPENDIX B: QUANTITATIVE REPORTING TEMPLATES**

The following pages contain QRTs for the Company.

All figures are presented in thousands of pounds with the exception of ratios that are in decimal. Please note that totals may differ from the component parts due to rounding. All items disclosed are consistent with the information provided privately to the Regulators.

## The following QRTs are provided:

S.02.01.02:	Balance sheet information.
S.05.01.02:	Information on premiums, claims and expenses.
S.12.01.02:	Information on the Technical Provisions relating to life insurance and health insurance.
S.22.01.21:	Information on the impact of long-term guarantees and transitional measures
S.23.01.01:	Information on Own Funds.
S.25.01.21:	Information on the SCR, calculated using the Standard Formula.
S.28.01.01:	Specifying information on the MCR for insurance.



Solvency II

## **Balance sheet**

		value
	Assets	C0010
R0030	Intangible assets	0
R0040	Deferred tax assets	0
R0050	Pension benefit surplus	0
R0060	Property, plant & equipment held for own use	3,560
R0070	Investments (other than assets held for index-linked and unit-linked contracts)	1,074,200
R0080	Property (other than for own use)	0
R0090	Holdings in related undertakings, including participations	5,223
R0100	Equities	4,206
R0110	Equities - listed	0
R0120	Equities - unlisted	4,206
R0130	Bonds	960,007
R0140	Government Bonds	405,465
R0150	Corporate Bonds	554,541
R0160	Structured notes	0
R0170	Collateralised securities	0
R0180	Collective Investments Undertakings	86,890
R0190	Derivatives	17,875
R0200	Deposits other than cash equivalents	0
R0210	Other investments	0
R0220	Assets held for index-linked and unit-linked contracts	5,450,373
R0230	Loans and mortgages	1,361
R0240	Loans on policies	584
R0250	Loans and mortgages to individuals	128
R0260	Other loans and mortgages	650
R0270	Reinsurance recoverables from:	269,209
R0280	Non-life and health similar to non-life	0
R0290	Non-life excluding health	0
R0300	Health similar to non-life	0
R0310	Life and health similar to life, excluding index-linked and unit-linked	264,058
R0320	Health similar to life	0
R0330	Life excluding health and index-linked and unit-linked	264,058
R0340	Life index-linked and unit-linked	5,151
R0350	Deposits to cedants	0
R0360	Insurance and intermediaries receivables	456
R0370	Reinsurance receivables	1,093
R0380	Receivables (trade, not insurance)	17,756
R0390	Own shares (held directly)	0
R0400	Amounts due in respect of own fund items or initial fund called up but not yet paid in	0
R0410	Cash and cash equivalents	97,451
R0420	Any other assets, not elsewhere shown	0
R0500	Total assets	6,915,459
		0,7.0,107



## S.02.01.02 Balance sheet

		Solvency II value
	Liabilities	C0010
R0510	Technical provisions - non-life	0
R0520	Technical provisions - non-life (excluding health)	0
R0530	TP calculated as a whole	0
R0540	Best Estimate	0
R0550	Risk margin	0
R0560	Technical provisions - health (similar to non-life)	0
R0570	TP calculated as a whole	0
R0580	Best Estimate	0
R0590	Risk margin	0
R0600	Technical provisions - life (excluding index-linked and unit-linked)	1,117,459
R0610	Technical provisions - health (similar to life)	0
R0620	TP calculated as a whole	0
R0630	Best Estimate	0
R0640	Risk margin	0
R0650	Technical provisions - life (excluding health and index-linked and unit-linked)	1,117,459
R0660	TP calculated as a whole	0
R0670	Best Estimate	1,062,876
R0680	Risk margin	54,583
R0690	Technical provisions - index-linked and unit-linked	5,398,350
R0700	TP calculated as a whole	5,446,919
R0710	Best Estimate	-53,126
R0720	Risk margin	4,556
R0740	Contingent liabilities	0
R0750	Provisions other than technical provisions	2,009
R0760	Pension benefit obligations	1,448
R0770	Deposits from reinsurers	4,558
R0780	Deferred tax liabilities	29,655
R0790	Derivatives	0
R0800	Debts owed to credit institutions	0
R0810	Financial liabilities other than debts owed to credit institutions	0
R0820	Insurance & intermediaries payables	36,863
R0830	Reinsurance payables	603
R0840	Payables (trade, not insurance)	21,606
R0850	Subordinated liabilities	0
R0860	Subordinated liabilities not in BOF	0
R0870	Subordinated liabilities in BOF	0
R0880	Any other liabilities, not elsewhere shown	0
R0900	Total liabilities	6,612,550
D4000	Function of acceptance with History	202.000
K1000	Excess of assets over liabilities	302,909



## S.05.01.02 Premiums, claims and expenses by line of business

## Life

			Line of Business for: life insurance obligations						Life reinsurance obligations		
		Health insurance	Insurance with profit participation	Index-linked and unit-linked insurance	Other life insurance	Annuities stemming from non-life insurance contracts and relating to health insurance obligations	Annuities stemming from non-life insurance contracts and relating to insurance obligations other than health insurance obligations	Health reinsurance	Life reinsurance	Total	
		C0210	C0220	C0230	C0240	C0250	C0260	C0270	C0280	C0300	
R1410	Premiums written		1,635	42,274	11,566		1		214	55,689	
				-							
R1420	Reinsurers' share		1,208 428		18,791				214	21,043	
R1500	Net Premiums earned		428	41,229	-7,224				214	34,647	
R1510			1,635	42,274	11,566				214	55,689	
				-						-	
R1520	Reinsurers' share		1,208		18,791				0	21,043	
R1600	Net		428	41,229	-7,224				214	34,647	
24440	Claims incurred		47.000	(00.300	(2.0(0				35	(00.200	
R1610			17,089	,	62,868				35	680,300	
R1620	Reinsurers' share		91	3,021	34,577				0	37,688	
R1700			16,998	597,288	28,290				35	642,612	
D.1715	Changes in other technical provisions			-					-1	-	
R1710			0	_	0				0	0	
R1720	Reinsurers' share		0		0				0	0	
R1800	Net		0		0				0	0	
R1900	Expenses incurred		1,304	17,298	2,365				0	20,967	
R2500	Other expenses								ļ.	752	
R2600	Total expenses								L	21,719	



#### 5.12.01.02 Life and Health SLT Technical Provisions

		Index-linked and unit-linked insurance		Ot	Other life insurance Annuities stemming from				Health insurance (direct business)			Annuities					
	Insurance with profit participation		Contracts without options and guarantees	Contracts with options or guarantees		Contracts without options and guarantees	Contracts with options or guarantees	non-life insurance contracts and relating to insurance obligation other than health insurance obligations	reinsurance			Contracts without options and guarantees	Contracts with options or guarantees	stemming from non-life insurance contracts and relating to health insurance obligations	Health reinsurance (reinsurance accepted)	Total (Health similar to life insurance)	
		C0020	C0030	C0040	C0050	C0060	C0070	C0080	C0090	C0100		C0160	C0170	C0180	C0190	C0200	C0210
R0010	Technical provisions calculated as a whole Total Recoverables from reinsurance/SPV and Finite Re after	0	5,446,919			0				0	5,446,919						
R0020	the adjustment for expected losses due to counterparty default associated to TP calculated as a whole	0	5,249			0				0	5,249						
	Technical provisions calculated as a sum of BE and RM. Best estimate																
R0030	Gross Best Estimate	216,488	[	-15	-53,110		666,767	179,117		504	1,009,750						
R0080	Total Recoverables from reinsurance/SPV and Finite Re after the adjustment for expected losses due to counterparty default	-6,436		0	-98		129,951	140,544		0	263,960						
R0090	Best estimate minus recoverables from reinsurance/SPV and Finite Re	222,924		-15	-53,012		536,816	38,573		504	745,790						
R0100	Risk margin	612	4,556			53,938				33	59,138		[				
	Amount of the transitional on Technical Provisions																
	Technical Provisions calculated as a whole	0	0			0				0	0						
	Best estimate	0		0	0		0	0		0	0						
	Risk margin	0	0			0				0	0		L				
R0200	Technical provisions - total	217,099	5,398,350			899,822				537	6,515,808						



# S.22.01.21 Impact of long term guarantees measures and transitionals

R0010	Technical provisions
R0020	Basic own funds
R0050	Eligible own funds to meet Solvency Capital Requirement
R0090	Solvency Capital Requirement
R0100	Eligible own funds to meet Minimum Capital Requirement
R0110	Minimum Capital Requirement

Amount with Long Term Guarantee measures and transitionals	Impact of transitional on technical provisions	Impact of transitional on interest rate	Impact of volatility adjustment set to zero	Impact of matching adjustment set to zero
C0010	C0030	C0050	C0070	C0090
6,515,808	0	0	0	32,597
290,692	0	0	0	-32,597
290,692	0	0	0	-32,597
157,559	0	0	0	10,137
290,692	0	0	0	-32,597
51,507	0	0	0	685



#### 5.23.01.01 Own Funds

	Basic own funds before deduction for participations in other financial sector as foreseen in article 68 of Delegated Regulation 2015/35	Total	Tier 1 unrestricted	Tier 1 restricted	Tier 2	Tier 3
		C0010	C0020	C0030	C0040	C0050
	Ordinary share capital (gross of own shares)	100,000	100,000		0	
	Share premium account related to ordinary share capital	0	0		0	
R0040	Initial funds, members' contributions or the equivalent basic own-fund item for mutual and mutual-type undertakings	0	0		0	
	Subordinated mutual member accounts	0		0	0	
	Surplus funds	601	601			
	Preference shares	0		0	0	
	Share premium account related to preference shares	0	400.004	0	0	
	Reconciliation reserve	190,091	190,091			
	Subordinated liabilities	0		0	0	
	An amount equal to the value of net deferred tax assets Other own fund items approved by the supervisory authority as basic own funds not specified above	0	0	0	0	
NUTGO	Other own runti factor approved by the supervisory authority as basic own runts not specified above		0			
	Own funds from the financial statements that should not be represented by the reconciliation reserve and do not meet the criteria to be classified as Solvency II own funds	0				
	Deductions for participations in financial and credit institutions	0	0	0	0	
R0290	Total basic own funds after deductions	290,692	290,692	0	0	
	Ancillary own funds					
	Unpaid and uncalled ordinary share capital callable on demand	0			0	
	Unpaid and uncalled initial funds, members' contributions or the equivalent basic own fund item for mutual and mutual - type undertakings, callable on demand	0			0	
	Unpaid and uncalled preference shares callable on demand	0			0	
	A legally binding commitment to subscribe and pay for subordinated liabilities on demand	0			0	
	Letters of credit and guarantees under Article 96(2) of the Directive 2009/138/EC	0			0	
	Letters of credit and guarantees other than under Article 96(2) of the Directive 2009/138/EC	0			0	
	Supplementary members calls under first subparagraph of Article 96(3) of the Directive 2009/138/EC	0				
	Supplementary members calls - other than under first subparagraph of Article 96(3) of the Directive 2009/138/EC Other ancillary own funds	0			0	
	Total ancillary own funds	0			0	
	Available and eligible own funds					
R0500	Total available own funds to meet the SCR	290,692	290,692	0	0	
	Total available own funds to meet the MCR	290,692	290,692	0	0	
R0540	Total eligible own funds to meet the SCR	290,692	290,692	0	0	
R0550	Total eligible own funds to meet the MCR	290,692	290,692	0	0	
R0580	SCR	157,559				
R0600	MCR	51,507				
R0620	Ratio of Eligible own funds to SCR	184.50%				
	Ratio of Eligible own funds to MCR	564.37%				
	Reconcilliation reserve	C0060				
R0700	Excess of assets over liabilities	302,909				
R0710	Own shares (held directly and indirectly)	0				
R0720	Foreseeable dividends, distributions and charges	0				
	Other basic own fund items	100,601				
	Adjustment for restricted own fund items in respect of matching adjustment portfolios and ring fenced funds	12,217				
R0760	Reconciliation reserve	190,091				
	Expected profits					
	Expected profits included in future premiums (EPIFP) - Life business	2,658				
	Expected profits included in future premiums (EPIFP) - Non-life business	0				
R0790	Total Expected profits included in future premiums (EPIFP)	2,658				



## 5.25.01.21 Solvency Capital Requirement - for undertakings on Standard Formula

		Gross solvency capital requirement	USP	Simplifications
		C0110	C0090	C0120
R0010	Market risk	150,824		
R0020	Counterparty default risk	17,377		
R0030	Life underwriting risk	108,641		
R0040	Health underwriting risk	0		
R0050	Non-life underwriting risk	0		
R0060	Diversification	-64,004		
			USP Key	
R0070	Intangible asset risk	0	For life underw	riting risk:
			1 - Increase in ti	ne amount of annuity
R0100	Basic Solvency Capital Requirement	212,838	benefits 9 - None	
	Calculation of Solvency Capital Requirement	C0100	For health unde 1 - Increase in th	rwriting risk; se amount of annuity
R0130	Operational risk	9,710	benefits	tation for NSLT health
R0140	Loss-absorbing capacity of technical provisions	-28,934	premium risi	k
R0150	Loss-absorbing capacity of deferred taxes	-36,055	3 - Standard dev premium risi	iation for NSLT health gross
R0160	Capital requirement for business operated in accordance with Art. 4 of Directive 2003/41/EC	0	4 - Adjustment f	actor for non-proportional
R0200	Solvency Capital Requirement excluding capital add-on	157,559	reinsurance 5 - Standard dev	tation for NSLT health
R0210	Capital add-ons already set	0	reserve risk	actor for right freeze
R0220	Solvency capital requirement	157,559	9 - None	
	Other information on SCR			derwriting risk; actor for non-proportional
R0400	Capital requirement for duration-based equity risk sub-module	0		tation for non-life
	Total amount of Notional Solvency Capital Requirements for remaining part	118,693	premium risi 7 - Standard des	k tation for non-life gross
R0420	Total amount of Notional Solvency Capital Requirements for ring fenced funds	1,025	premium risi	k
R0430	Total amount of Notional Solvency Capital Requirements for matching adjustment portfolios	37,841	8 - Standard dev reserve risk	tation for non-life
R0440	Diversification effects due to RFF nSCR aggregation for article 304	0	9 - None	
			•	
	Approach to tax rate	C0109		
R0590	Approach based on average tax rate	No		
	Calculation of loss absorbing capacity of deferred taxes	LAC DT		
20112	110.00	C0130		
	LAC DT	-36,055		
	LAC DT justified by reversion of deferred tax liabilities	-22,509		
	LAC DT justified by reference to probable future taxable economic profit	0		
	LAC DT justified by carry back, current year	-13,546		
R0680	LAC DT justified by carry back, future years	0		
R0690	Maximum LAC DT	-36,787		



## S.28.01.01 Minimum Capital Requirement - Only life or only non-life insurance or reinsurance activity

R0010	Linear formula component for non-life insurance and reinsurance obligations $\label{eq:mcR_NL} \text{MCR}_{\text{NL}}. \text{Result}$	C0010		
			Net (of reinsurance/SPV) best estimate and TP calculated as a whole	Net (of reinsurance) written premiums in the last 12 months
			C0020	C0030
R0020	Medical expense insurance and proportional reinsurance			
R0030	Income protection insurance and proportional reinsurance			
R0040	Workers' compensation insurance and proportional reinsurance			
R0050	Motor vehicle liability insurance and proportional reinsurance			
R0060	Other motor insurance and proportional reinsurance			
R0070	Marine, aviation and transport insurance and proportional reinsurance			
R0080	Fire and other damage to property insurance and proportional reinsurance			
R0090	General liability insurance and proportional reinsurance			
R0100	Credit and suretyship insurance and proportional reinsurance			
R0110	Legal expenses insurance and proportional reinsurance			
R0120	Assistance and proportional reinsurance			
R0130	Miscellaneous financial loss insurance and proportional reinsurance			
R0140	Non-proportional health reinsurance			
R0150	Non-proportional casualty reinsurance			
R0160	Non-proportional marine, aviation and transport reinsurance			
R0170	Non-proportional property reinsurance			
	Linear formula component for life insurance and reinsurance obligations	C0040		
R0200	MCR <sub>c</sub> Result	51,507		
			Net (of reinsurance/SPV) best estimate and TP calculated as a whole	Net (of reinsurance/SPV) total capital at risk
			C0050	C0060
R0210	Obligations with profit participation - guaranteed benefits		145,112	
R0220	Obligations with profit participation - future discretionary benefits		77,812	
R0230	Index-linked and unit-linked insurance obligations		5,388,643	
R0240	Other life (re)insurance and health (re)insurance obligations		575,894	
R0250	Total capital at risk for all life (re)insurance obligations			528,729
	Overall MCR calculation	C0070	'	
R0300	Linear MCR	51,507		
R0310		157,559		
R0320	MCR cap	70,902		
R0330		39,390		
R0340	Combined MCR	51,507		
R0350	Absolute floor of the MCR	3,126		
R0400	Minimum Capital Requirement	51,507		



## **GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

AFR	Available Financial Resources
ALCo	Asset and Liability Committee
ALM	Asset and Liability Management
AMC	Annual Management Charge
AVIF	Acquired Value In-Force
BEL	Best Estimate Liability
bps	basis points
BRV	Bonus Reserve Value
BSCR	Basic Solvency Capital Rate
CF	Certification Function
CMS	Capital Management Strategy
DB	Defined Benefit
ECAI	External Credit Assessment Institution
EIOPA	European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority
EOF	Eligible Own Funds
EPIFP	Expected Profit in Future Premium
EU	European Union
ExCo	Executive Committee
FCA	Financial Conduct Authority
FCOG	Fair Customer Outcomes Governance Committee
FDB	Future Discretionary Benefits
FRS	Financial Reporting Standard under UK GAAP
FVPC	Fair Value Pricing Committee
GAAP	Generally Accepted Accounting Principles
GAO	Guaranteed Annuity Option
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation
HRG	Homogeneous Risk Group
IAS	International Accounting Standard
IFRIC	International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee
IFRS	International Financial Reporting Standard
KF	Key Function
KFP	Key Function Person
KRI	Key Risk Indicator
MA	Matching Adjustment
MCR	Minimum Capital Requirement
NNED	Notified Non-Executive Director
NPF	Non-Profit Fund
ORSA	Own Risk and Solvency Assessment
OTC	Over the Counter



PPFM	Principles and Practices of Financial Management
PRA	Prudential Regulation Authority
QRT	Quantitative Reporting Template
RFF	Ring Fenced Fund
RIDCo	Regulatory and Industry Development Committee
RMF	Risk Management Framework
RMIS	RMIS (RTW) Limited – formerly Reliance Mutual Life Insurance Society Limited
SCR	Solvency Capital Requirement
SFCR	Solvency and Financial Condition Report
SM&CR	Senior Managers and Certification Regime
SMC	Senior Management Committee
SMF	Senior Management Function
TMTP	Transitional Measure on Technical Provisions
TP	Technical Provisions
ULP	Utmost Life and Pensions Limited("the Company")
ULPH	Utmost Life and Pensions Holdings Limited
ULPS	Utmost Life and Pensions Services Limited
WPSF1	With Profits Sub-Fund 1
WPSF2	With Profits Sub-Fund 2
WPSF4	With Profits Sub-Fund 4
WPSF6	With Profits Sub-Fund 6